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RECORDS,

OF THE

CITY OF NEW AMSTERDAM, N. Y.

v. 1  
IN NEW NETHERLAND.

EDITED BY

HENRY B. DAWSON,

And Published by Permission of the Common Council of

THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

VOL. I.

MORRISANIA, N. Y.:

1867.

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TO THE  
MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COMMONALTY  
OF THE  
CITY OF NEW YORK,

This edition of the ancient Records of the Municipality,  
published by their permission,

IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED.

MORRISANIA, N. Y., 1866.



## PREFATORY NOTE.

Our friend, the venerable Clerk of the Common Council of the city of New York, in his letter communicating the action of that body concerning the proposed publication of portions of its ancient records in the successive numbers of *THE HISTORICAL MAGAZINE*, has referred very briefly to the great interest which attaches to those time-stained volumes, and their great importance to both the student and the statesman. They are the earliest existing memorials, in its archives, of the beginnings of the commercial metropolis of America; the earliest internal evidences of Government in that primitive community which laid the foundation of New York's present and future greatness; and, in the lessons which the men of that early period have sent down to us, there is much to be gathered which will make us both wiser men and more useful citizens.

In its earlier days, although New Amsterdam was considered and called a city, it was not different in its character and government from the other settlements of New Netherland. The Commonalty had no voice in its government; there were within it none of the municipal officers or institutions which distinguished the cities of Father-land from its country towns; and the Director-general and Council of the infant Colony, who exercised at once Executive, Legislative and Judicial functions, were its only law-givers. PETER MINUIT of Wesel, WOUTER VAN TWYLER of Nieuwkerke, WILLEM KIEFT and PETRUS STUYVESANT, may therefore be considered as successively the earlier heads of the City Government in New Amsterdam, and the Orders and Proclamations of the Directors-general and Councils of New Netherland, relating thereto, as its *Ordinances*, until February, 1652, when the administration of the Schout, Burgomasters and Schepens, which had been granted to the Commonalty, gave to it, to some extent at least, the appearance of a self-governed municipality.

The existing records of the Corporation extend no farther back than the last of May, 1617, when PETRUS STUYVESANT was the widely-known and respected Director-general; but of its transactions from that time until the present, there is an unbroken record, save only where a single volume, of a comparatively recent period, has been abstracted from the archives.

In the following pages, which have been carefully copied from the Translations made by Doctor WESTBROOK and compared with the original, the pages of each series of volumes are noted, in order that they may be referred to by students at a distance; and illustrative Notes have been added where they can serve to illustrate the Text or render it more useful.



## IN COMMON COUNCIL.

*Resolved*, That permission is hereby given to Henry B. Dawson, Editor of THE HISTORICAL MAGAZINE, to make copies of and to publish in that work, from time to time, such portions of the ancient Records of this Corporation and such of its papers on file as, in his opinion, shall serve to illustrate the early history of this State and City, and the character and habits of the inhabitants, provided the same shall be done under the direction and supervision of the Clerk of the Common Council; and that the said Records shall not be removed from the Clerk's Office.

Adopted by the Board of Aldermen, December 6, 1866.

Adopted by the Board of Councilmen, December 10, 1866.

Approved by His Honor the Mayor, December 13, 1866.

D. T. VALENTINE,

*Clerk of the Common Council.*



OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE COMMON COUNCIL, }  
NEW YORK, January 2d, 1867. }

HENRY B. DAWSON, ESQ.

*Editor of THE HISTORICAL MAGAZINE :*

SIR: At the same time that I communicate to you the action of the Common Council, authorizing the use by you of its ancient records and papers, and the publication of portions of them in your work, I take pleasure in complying with your request that I should furnish some account of our early Dutch Manuscript Records, so far as they have come under my observation.

When I first became connected with this office, now more than forty years ago, these ancient Dutch Records were scattered throughout the public offices, some being in the Register's, some in the Surrogate's, some in the County-Clerk's, and others of them in this office.

They were not very attentively cared for, having been without readers for probably a century or more. No attempt had been made to translate them; and of the history of New Amsterdam and of the times in which lived and acted the revered fathers of our City and State, which has since been so fully revealed, so large a portion was not supposed to lie hidden in these dusty, unbound, and forbidding volumes. They were as unpromising to the searcher among the relics of the past as were the sterile mounds in Assyria to the eye of the traveler, who little supposed that beneath them lay the most ancient relics of the Historic period. Indeed there were but few who could decipher the ancient form of manuscript in these old Records; and when to this difficulty were added the great changes in the Dutch Language, caused by the lapse of two centuries, it is obvious that the difficulties of translation were not easily overcome.

A few years after I took charge of this office, still held by me, I commenced the publication of short historic sketches in the small *Manual*, then annually published for the use of the Corporation Officers. To these were added some curious pictorial representations of old buildings and scenes of interest in early times in our city.

The project seemed to meet a public want, and great encouragement was held out by our citizens for a more extended examination of our early history, which could be presented for





the delectation of the intellectual palate of our citizens in this form of publication to greater advantage than any merely private historical research could promise.

Stimulated by these assurances of public interest, I urged the authorities to make provision for the translation of these vagrant volumes, and was met with alacrity by the appropriation of a sufficient sum to secure the translation of a few of them. These were principally the records of the Burgomasters and Schepens, which were translated about the year 1838, by Doctor Westbrook.

They were found to be full of interesting particulars of our early history, and were carefully digested and studied in unfolding the gradual progress of the city in that early stage of its history; and a few years afterwards, other volumes, embracing the proceedings and records of other tribunals, were added, which were translated by Doctor O'Callaghan. These, and others subsequently translated by him, embraced, in all, several volumes.

The last translations were made last year (1856), consisting of the records of Transfers of Titles of Real Estate, which were made by John Paulding, Esq.

All these volumes have been, by Legislature authority, made a part of the archives of my office; where the originals are deposited with due regard to their preservation, and the translations are open to public inspection.

Truly, yours,

D. T. VALENTINE,

*Clerk of the Common Council.*



"BURGOMASTERS AND SCHEPENS.

"VOLUME I.

"FROM MAY, 1647, TO SEPTEMBER, 1654."

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PART I.

ORDERS OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL AND  
COUNCIL OF NEW NETHERLAND.



## RECORDS.

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[*Original, 1, 2; Translation, 1-3.*]

PETRUS STUYVESANT, Director General of New Netherland, Curacao, etc., and the Islands of the same, Captain and Commander of the Company's ships and vessels cruising in the West Indies, to all persons to whom these Presents may or shall come, or who may or shall hear them read, Sendeth Greeting :

Whereas we have observed and remarked the insolence of some of our inhabitants who are in the habit of getting drunk, of quarrelling and fighting, and of smiting each other on the Lord's Day of Rest, of which, on the last Sunday, we ourselves witnessed the painful scenes and of which we also came to the knowledge, by report, in defiance of the Magistrates, to the contempt and disregard of our person and authority, to the great annoyance of the neighborhood, and finally, to the injury and dishonor of God's holy laws and commandments, which enjoin upon us to honor and sanctify him on this holy Day of



Rest, and which proscribe all personal injury and murder, with the means and temptations that may lead thereunto:

Therefore, by the advice of His Excellency the Director General and our ordained Council, here present, to the end that we may as far as it is possible and practicable, take all due care, and prevent the curse of God instead of his blessing from falling upon us and our good inhabitants, We do, by these Presents, charge, command, and enjoin upon all Tapsters and Inn-keepers, that, on the Sabbath of the Lord, commonly called Sunday, before two of the clock in the [2] afternoon, in case there is no preaching, or, otherwise, before four of the clock in the afternoon, they shall not be permitted to Set, nor Draw, nor Bring out, for any person or persons, any Wines, Beers, or Strong-waters of any kind whatsoever and under whatever pretext, excepting only to persons travelling and to the daily boarders who may from necessity be confined to their places of abode, under the penalty of being deprived of their occupations and, in addition thereto, in the penalty of Six Carolus Guilders for each person who, during that time, may or shall have run up a score for any Wine or Beer in their houses. And, furthermore, we do hereby forbid all Inn-keepers and Tapsters whatsoever to keep their houses open for common company, or to Tap or Deal out, on said day, or on any other day in the week, after the ringing of the bell in the evening, which shall take place about nine of the clock, any Wines, Beers, or Strong-waters, excepting to all the members of their families, travellers, and boarders, under the same penalty. And to the end that we may take all due care to prevent all rash drawing of knives, all fightings and personal injuries, and all catastrophes resulting from





the same; Therefore, with the praiseworthy approbation of the High, Wise, and Honorable Councillors of the city of Amsterdam [in New Netherland,\*] by these presents, We do Proclaim and Ordain that all persons who shall rashly or in anger draw, or who shall have drawn any knife or dagger against another person, shall, in such case, be fined in the penalty of One hundred [3] Carolus Guilders; or, in case of their failure in the payment of the same, they shall be put to the most menial labor, with bread and water for their subsistence; or, in case any person shall have been wounded thereby, the penalty shall be Three hundred Carolus Guilders, or, an additional half-year's confinement to the most menial labor, with bread and water for their subsistence.

We do also command our Fiscaal, our Lieutenant, our Sergeants and Corporals, and every one of our citizens and inhabitants, as well as the

\* In the original Dutch, the words equivalent to "in New Netherland" do not appear; and they are inserted here only because the Translator seems to have understood the term "City of Amsterdam," as referring to this city, and added the words in question, to establish that interpretation.

We do not believe, however, that he was correct in this view of the subject. The City of Amsterdam, in Fatherland, as will be seen in various parts of these Records and in other contemporary writings, controlled, to some considerable extent, the Government of New Amsterdam, in New Netherland; and there is good reason to suppose that the demoralization which had prevailed there, under Van Twyler and Kieft, had attracted the attention of the Home Government, and induced it to give especial authority to the newly-appointed Director General to take the stringent measures, for the correction of the abuses, which are contained in this Order. The reference to the superior authority of "the High, Wise, and Honorable Councillors of the City of Amsterdam," in this first Order, was well calculated, therefore, to give weight to Stuyvesant's opposition to the wrong-doers; and it serves, also, to illustrate how far, in the beginning of his Administration, at least, he was willing to recognize and obey the superior authority of his official superiors, in Holland.—H. B. D.



Soldiers, on all occasions, with all due zeal, and activity, and fidelity, to take measures that all such persons be pursued and apprehended, so that they may be proceeded against and dealt with as the Law directs. Done in Fort Amsterdam, this last day of May, Anno, 1647.\*

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\* This Order was the first, concerning New Amsterdam, which was promulgated by Director General Stuyvesant, who had arrived in that port less than three weeks before; and it is highly important to the historical student, in illustrating not only the condition of the Colony at the close of Kieft's administration, but of the different policy which was immediately inaugurated by the sturdy and unflinching Director General who had just entered on the discharge of his duties.

The mismanagement of Van Twyler and Kieft is generally known; but the actual condition of the city and its vicinity is nowhere so evident as in the means which were found necessary to correct the abuses which prevailed there, and in the determination, requiring even an exhibition of the superior authority of the Home Government to strengthen it, with which those means were necessarily employed by the new Government.

The great body of the inhabitants, partaking of the vices of both their Civil and Ecclesiastical leaders, appear to have given way to the most intemperate habits; and faction being opposed to faction, and even the Church affording only an example of intemperance and violence, there need be little surprise that the infant community, beyond the influences which had restrained the passions of its members while they were yet in the Fatherland, and surrounded by the bad examples, and encouraged by the looseness of the restraints which were presented by both the Church and the State, had become in the highest degree demoralized. In Stuyvesant, however, the State had found a different representative, while the Church was also about to be purged of its badness by the resignation of its intemperate Pastor, the Domine Bogardus. Keeping in sight, both for his own support and for the condemnation of the wrong-doers, the respect which was due to the Magistracy, the right of protection which was due from the State to its law-abiding subjects, and the Supreme authority of "God's holy laws and commandments," the Director General boldly breasted the torrent of vice which was rapidly overwhelming the city; and in the Order which is the subject of these remarks he inaugurated a new policy of Government, and laid the foundation of that peculiar greatness, in New Amsterdam, which, to this day, distinguishes New York from all other cities in Christendom.



[Original, 2; Translation, 3, 4.]

**W**HEREAS His Excellency the Director General and the Honorable the Council have been credibly informed that certain individual Traders, engaged in the Southern Trade and sailing under the License of this Government, are in the practice of going into the interior and entering the Maquaas country, whereby the regular traffic is ruined and, in addition thereto, the privileges of those Traders who remain with their cargoes, at the usual places of deposite, are greatly damaged or entirely lost: and, moreover, by such [4] means, the good understanding with the Indians may be interrupted and they may be stirred up to murder and put to death such and such persons, whereby these districts of country are put in constant danger of being brought into difficulty and war: Therefore, to the end that we may, in the most effectual way, guard the interest and honor of the West India Company, we have forbidden and interdicted, and we, do by these Presents, from this time, forbid and interdict, every one of our Inhabitants from having the hardihood to go into the interior with any

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But it was not alone for this purpose that the Order in the text is important to the student of the history of New York.

Coming in conflict with the interests of a large and influential body of the Burgheers, as well as with the passions of another and still larger body of the inhabitants, there is little doubt that to this identical Order may be traced the beginning of that steady and powerful internal opposition which the Administration of Director General Stuyvesant encountered in New Netherland, and which was seen most distinctly during the last week of his official career; and in it, also, may be seen an evidence of the peculiar courage and sturdy devotion to duty, regardless of consequences, which distinguished that much-abused officer above most others of his time, and added a dignity to his actions, which neither the opposition of open enemies nor the ridicule of professed friends have been permitted to tarnish, much less to conceal.—H. B. D.



cargoes or any other merchandize; but they shall leave them at the usual places of deposit, and there wait for traffic. Done at Fort Amsterdam, in New Netherland, on the 18th June, Anno. 1647.

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[Original, 3; Translation, 4-6.]

**W**HEREAS, there is a continual practice of selling much strong drink to the Indians, whereby these districts of Country are exposed to imminent dangers: and Whereas it behooves us, promptly, to take measures to prevent the same: Therefore, we, the Director General and the Council of New Netherland do hereby forbid and interdict, from this time forth, all Tappers and all other inhabitants, from Selling, Dealing out, or Bartering, in any way or under any pretext whatsoever, to the Indians, any Wine, Beer, or Strong drink, and from [5] permitting the same to be fetched by the mug, directly or indirectly, even though it may be through the third or fourth person, under the penalty of Five hundred Carolus Guilders and the farther responsibility for all the misdemeanors that may result therefrom.

All persons are hereby also warned and forbidden against trespassing upon the Orchards, Fields, and Gardens, Provided they shall be found in fence or planted with fruit-trees; and every one who shall have trespassed upon any Fields, Gardens, or Orchards in fence or in fruit, shall be fined One hundred Guilders and, in addition thereto, be liable to pay actual damages.

All the inhabitants of New Netherland are hereby charged and commanded to set off and to put into good fence all their Plantations, so that





the Cattle therein may be kept from committing trespass; which Cattle, whether they be Horses, Kine, or, in a special manner, Goats and Hogs, must be taken care of, or otherwise disposed of, that they cannot commit any trespass. To this end, the Fiscaal, Van Dyck,\* shall build a Pound, in which the Cattle shall be detained until the damage shall have been made good and the fees of the officer paid. Let every one take warning and look out for costs. Done at Fort Amsterdam, in New Netherland: [6] Present, His Excellency the Governor General, the former Director General Kieft, the Honorable Dincklage,† Mons. la Montagne, the Captain Lieu-

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\* HENDRICK VAN DYCK, the Fiscaal of the Colony, seems to have come to New Netherland as an Ensign in the Company's military service, in 1639; and, in 1642, he commanded an expedition against the Wechquaesqueeks, who had offended Kieft. During the following year (October 6, 1643), he was wounded in one of the forays by the Indians, which followed the short Peace of April 22d; and, soon after, it is evident that he returned to Holland.

He was appointed to the important office of Schout fiscaal of the Colony, in 1646; and, in that capacity, he accompanied Stuyvesant to New Netherland, in the following year; but he seems to have very soon lost, if he ever possessed, the respect as well as the confidence of the Director General. In his turn, he seems very soon to have been in the front rank of those who opposed Stuyvesant; and, in March, 1652, he was summarily removed from office, and returned to Holland.

He was a man of dissipated habits, negligent of his official duties, untrustworthy in matters of State, and of questionable personal integrity; and he was succeeded in his office as Schout-fiscaal by Cornelis Van Tienhoven, the profligate Secretary of the Colony.—H. B. D.

† LEBBERTUS VAN DINCKLAGE, "an honorable man and Doctor of Laws," succeeded Conrad Notelman as Schout fiscaal of the Colony in 1633; but, in consequence of his opposition to Van Twyler's conduct, he was dismissed from that office in the summer of 1636, and returned to Holland.

He seems to have been a constant suppliant before the authorities, in Fatherland, for a redress of his grievances and the recovery of his salary, which had been withheld from him,



tenant Newton, Paulus Leendersen, Jacob Loper,\* Solomon Tennissen and John Claessen Bol, on the first day of July, Anno, 1647.

*[The following Orders of the Director and Council, for the government of the Inhabitants of New Amsterdam, and not recorded in the Archives of the city, properly belong in this place. In order, however, that the early Records of the city may be presented unbroken to our readers, they have been transferred to the "Appendix to Part I." of this volume:]*

I. Imposing an excise duty on wines and liquors. Made July 4, 1647.

II. Prohibiting the export of furs until the duties shall have been paid. Made July 4, 1647.

III. Designating the anchorage ground in the port of New Amsterdam, etc. Made July 4, 1647.—H. B. D.]

until the nominal removal from office, in December, 1644, of Director Kieft, when he was ordered back to New Netherland as its Vice or Provisional Director—a post he seems never to have really occupied, notwithstanding a Commission was issued in the following May.

In July, 1646, when Stuyvesant really superseded Kieft as Director-General, Van Brucklage went with him, and, at the period in question, was the Vice-Director and First Councillor of the Colony. He subsequently became opposed to Stuyvesant's administration and was imprisoned by the indignant Director-General, after which he retired to Staten Island as the agent of the Baron Van der Capellen.

On the failure of the Baren's adventure, in company with Cornelis and Jacob Melyn, Van Brucklage removed to New Haven, where, in April, 1657, he became a citizen.

He was married to Margareta, daughter of Rev. John Hanius, by whom he had nine children, and died early in the year 1688.—H. B. D.

\* JACOB LOPER had been a Captain Lieutenant in Curacao. His wife was Cornelia, daughter of Cornelis Melyn of Staten Island.—H. B. D.



[Original, 4; Translation, 6.]

WHEREAS, in times past, all free Merchants in New Netherland, for some time back, have been in the habit of paying, monthly, the duties on all Peltries procured here, in trade, and of shipping them to Father-land when opportunities offer: Therefore, it is by Council deemed very necessary to establish a regular duty, so that every one may have the opportunity of knowing what the Law requires them to pay; with respect to which it is determined that the following shall be the established Tariff: For every Beaver-skin exported, Fifteen Stivers—Two halves for One, and Three thirds for Two whole Beaver-skins.\* For every Otter-skin and Beaver-skin, Fifteen Stivers. For every skin of an Elk, Fifteen Stivers. As the other Peltries are of less value, the duty shall be as the case may require. Done in Council: Present, the Director General Petrus Stuyvesant, the former Director General William Kieft, the Honorable Bincklage, Mous. la Montagne, Lieutenant Newton, the Equipage-master Paulus Leendertsen, Jan Claessen Bol,† this 23rd July, Anno, 1647.

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\* By an order of Director-General Kieft, dated "21 June, A° 1644," an excise of One Guilder, subsequently made Fifteen Stivers, was imposed "on each merchantable beaver purchased within our limits and brought here to the fort," for the purpose of meeting the expenses of the existing War with the Indians.

This, the first excise on peltries in New Netherland, seems to have been agreed to by the Eight men of the city, under the circumstances; although the Director promised it should be only a temporary measure.

By this Order, the excise was continued over.—H. B. D.

† JAN CLAESSEN BOL was the commander of the Company's ship *Swool*, which came over with Stuyvesant; and he returned to Holland, after remaining in the Colony only a few weeks.—H. B. D.



[Original, 4, 5 ; Translation, 7, 8.]

WHEREAS, both by correct information and our own knowledge, we have remarked the disorderly practice, both now and formerly, of building and erecting Houses and of extending House-lots far beyond their lawful limits, and of putting up Hog-pens and Privies along the Public Road and Streets, neglecting and omitting to make suitable improvements upon the Lots given and granted to them, To prevent this for the future, it is resolved by the Director General Petrus Stuyvesant and their Excellencies the Councillors, to appoint three Surveyors of Buildings—His Excellency Lubbert Van Dincklage, the Equipage-master Paulus Leendertsen,\* and the Secretary Cornelis Van Tienhoven—whom we do hereby authorize and empower to condemn all inappropriety and disorder in Buildings, Fences, Palisades, Posts, and Rails, and in future to forbid it; for that purpose, to order and warn, from this time forward, all and every one of our subjects, within or around the city of New Amsterdam, who are disposed to build, plant, settle, or enclose with palisades, that no one shall continue in the practice of the same nor undertake to do it, without the knowledge, consent, and inspection of the aforesaid Surveyors of Buildings, in the penalty of Twenty-five

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\* PAULUS LEENDERTZEN VAN DER GRIET was the commander of the West India Company's ship *Great Gerrit*, and came to New Netherland with Stuyvesant, in 1647. He was appointed Equipage-master, or Navy-agent, of the Colony; entered into trade; was Schepen in 1653-4; Burgomaster in 1657-8, 1661 and 1664; and returned to Europe in 1671.

He lived on the West side of Broadway, near where Trinity Church now stands; and his place of business was in Pearl, near Broad-street. O'CALLAGHAN'S *Notes to Colonial Documents*.—H. B. D.





Carolus Guilders and of removing whatever they may have built or set up. We do also hereby warn and give notice to all and every one who may heretofore have received the grant of House-lots, within nine months from this time, to improve their Lots [8] by building suitable and convenient houses, according to Order, or, in default thereof, the unimproved lots shall revert to the Patroon or Landlord, or to whomsoever they may have belonged and who may have conveyed the same. Thus done in Council at Fort Amsterdam: Present, His Excellency Director-General Kieft, His Excellency Dincklage, Mons. la Montagne,\* Lieutenant Newton†, Paulus Leendertsen, Equipage Master, Jan Claessen Bol, this 25th of July, Anno, 1647.

*[The following Orders, etc., properly belonging in this place, but not recorded in the Archives of the city, will be found in the "Appendix to Part I." of this volume:]*

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\* Doctor JOHANNES LA MONTAGNE, a learned Huguenot, arrived in New Netherland early in 1637, and was called to the Council, by Kieft, in March, 1638, where he continued until September, 1656, when he was appointed Vice Director of Fort Orange, in the place of De Decker, who was about to return to Father-land.

He married, successively, Rachel Monjour and Agritta Ellis, widow of Arent Corssen; by the first of whom he had John, Rachel, Maria, Jesse and William; by the latter he had no children.—H. B. D.

† Lieutenant BRIAN NEWTON was an Englishman, who had been employed by the Company some twenty years, and held office under Stuyvesant in Curacao.—O'CALLAGHAN'S *New Netherland*, II., 19, 20.

In company with Nicholas Varleth, in 1660, he was sent on a mission to Virginia, and entered into a Treaty of Amity and Commerce with the General Assembly of that Colony.

In September, 1661, he requested permission to resign his Commission and return to Holland; and in July, 1662, he was duly discharged. It is probable that he returned to Europe soon after.

He resided at Flatlands, L. J.—H. B. D.



IV. Instructions to the Nine Men, September 25, 1647.

V. Propositions of the Director General concerning fires and a school, in New Amsterdam, November 11, 1647.

VI. Order concerning work on Fort Amsterdam, made, November 22, 1647.

VII. Notice, concerning Wampum, November 30, 1647.—II. B. D.]

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[*Original, 5; Translation, 8, 9.*]

WHEREAS, it has come to the knowledge of His Excellency the Director General and their Honors the Councillors, that in and about the city of New Amsterdam there are Brewers who are in the practice of Tapping and Selling Beer by the small measure, whereby it may happen and come to pass that those neighbors who obtain from them their Beer and pay the Excise may not be accommodated when they shall be tapped dry: Therefore, by the aforesaid, His Excellency the Director General and the Councillors, agreeable to the order and practice in Holland, this has been forbidden; and by these Presents it is Ordained and Interdicted [9] that no Brewer in and around the city shall be permitted to Tap and Sell Beer by the half-pot or small measure; and that no Brewers shall be permitted to Brew Beer, or procure it to be done for him by others, in the penalty of forfeiting all such Beer and all such stock on hand as shall happen to be in the house of said Brewer or Tapper; and, in addition thereto, he shall be



admonished not to do so any more. Done this  
12th January, 1648.

[*Original, 6; Translation, 9, 10.*]

WHEREAS, it has come to the knowledge of His Excellency the Director General of New Netherland, Curacao, etc., and the Islands of the same, and their Excellencies the Councillors, that certain careless Persons are in the habit of neglecting to clean their Chimnies, by sweeping, and of paying no attention to their Fires, whereby, lately, fires have occurred in two houses; and Whereas, the danger of fire is greater as the number of houses increases here, in New Amsterdam; and Whereas the greater number of them are built of Wood and covered with Reeds, together with the fact that some of the houses have Wooden Chimnies, which are very dangerous: Therefore, by the very prompt and excellent Director General and their Honors the Councillors it has been deemed [10] advisable and highly necessary to look into this matter; and they do hereby Ordain, Enact, and Interdict that, from this time forth, no Wooden or Platted Chimnies shall be permitted to be built in any Houses between the Fort and the Fresh-water: and that those already standing shall be permitted to remain during the good pleasure of the Fire-wardens:

And, to the end that the foregoing Order may be duly observed, the following persons are appointed, to wit: From the Council, the Commissary, Adriaen Keyser\*; and from the Commonalty,

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\* ADRIAEN KEYSER came to New Netherland as Secretary, subsequently was appointed Commissary, and still later the Vendue Master.—H. B. D.



Thomas Hall\*, Martin Crygiert†, and George Woolsey,‡ who, in their turn shall visit all the houses in this city, wheresoever they may stand or be situated, between the Port and the Fresh-water; and they shall inspect the Chimnies, whether they be kept clean by sweeping. And as often as any shall be discovered to be foul, the Firewardens aforesaid shall condemn them as foul; and the owners shall immediately, without any gainsaying, pay the fine of Three Guilders for each Chimney thus Condemned as foul, to be appropriated to the maintenance of Fire-ladders, Hooks, and Buckets, which shall be provided and procured the first opportunity.§ And in case

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\* THOMAS HALL was a farmer who had emigrated to the South river, in 1635; but, in 1647, he had resided several years in New Netherland. He had been Jacob Van Carter's overseer, at Flatlands; but, at the period in question he was largely engaged in the cultivation of tobacco, on his own account, and possessed considerable real estate, on Manhattan Island.

He was one of the Eight men of the city, in 1643; one of the Nine men, in 1649; and a Select-man, in 1650; and he was very much respected, notwithstanding he was, probably, somewhat engaged in illicit trade.—H. B. D.

† MARTIN CRYGIER was a noted Inn keeper in New Amsterdam, Captain-Lieutenant of the Burgess Corps of that city, and, subsequently, Captain of a company sent from Amsterdam in Holland, with which he did good service to the Southward and against the Indians. He was, also, one of the first Burgomasters of New Amsterdam; and at the termination of the Dutch authority in the Colony, he retired to the valley of the Mohawk, where, at Canastota, now Niskayune, he died in the early part of 1713. *O'Callaghan's New Netherland*, ii., 554.—H. B. D.

‡ GEORGE WOOLSEY was from Yarmouth, England, and in the employ of Isaac Alberton, a merchant of New Amsterdam. He owned a plantation at Long Island, but it is not known that he lived there.—H. B. D.

§ This is the earliest minute, on the Records of the city, concerning a Fire Department. It will be seen that, although two fires had lately occurred, there was no apparatus in the city, at the date of this Order, for either extinguishing fires or arresting their progress.—H. B. D.





the house of any person shall be burned or be on fire, either through his own negligence or his own fire, he shall be mulcted in the penalty of Twenty-five Guilders, to be appropriated as aforesaid.

Done, passed, and published, at Fort Amsterdam, this 23rd January, 1648.

*[The following papers, properly belonging in this place, but not recorded in the Archives of the city, will be found in the "Appendix to Part I." of this volume:]*

VIII. Ordinance further regulating the fur-trade. Made January 29, 1648.

IX. Order, responsive to a petition of the Nine Men. Made February 18, 1648.

X. Ordinance regulating trade and navigation. Made March 10, 1648.—II. B. D.]

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*[Original, 7-9; Translation, 11-15.]*

PETRUS STUYVESANT, Director General of New Netherland, Curacao, etc., and their Excellencies the Councillors, to all to whom these Presents may or shall come, or who may hear them read, Greeting:

Whereas, it has come to our knowledge that our former Proclamations, issued against unreasonable and intemperate Drinking, both at night and on the Rest Day of the Lord, to the scorn and derision of our persons and Nation, have not been observed and executed according to our intent and meaning; which Proclamations, by these Presents, we do renew, ordain, and enact, so that, from this time forth, they shall continue to be in force, maintained, and carried



out with a stricter observance and execution, according to the obvious tenor and meaning thereof. In the meanwhile, the occasion and the reasons why these our good Regulations and well-meant Proclamations have not been observed according to the tenor and meaning of them, are the following, to wit: The kinds of business and the easy profits flowing therefrom divert and seduce many from their primitive Calling, Trade, and Business; and they devote themselves to Tapping, so much so that almost one full fourth part of the city of New Amsterdam have become Bawdy-houses, for the sale of Ardent Spirits, Tobacco, and Beer, whereby very many do not only neglect and abandon their honest handicraft and business, but, also, the common man and the Company's [12] servants, in a great measure, are allured; and, what is still worse, the youth, even from their childhood, noticing the unbecoming conduct of their parents, are consequently drawn off from the path of Virtue unto all idleness and into what are concomitants—Cheating, Smuggling, and Frauds, in the clandestine sales of Beer and Brandy to the Indians and Natives, although both daily experience and God teach us better, because therefrom we cannot but apprehend fresh animosities betwixt them and us. And, in addition to all this, it happens that some honest Inns, established and supported for the use and benefit of the Traveller, and Stranger, and the Inhabitants—who honestly and righteously pay their Taxes and Excise, and are in the possession of suitable Houses, or do hire them—have to bear the greater part of the burdens, whereby these Tavern-Keepers are in a great measure interrupted in their licensed and lawful calling and business, being ready in these premises, to make provision according to the exigency of the case and the in-



mergency of the [ ], Therefore, we the Director General and the Councillors aforesaid, on the subject of the Tapsters and Inn-Keepers, do Ordain and Enact the following Regulations and By-Laws:

### I.

In the first place, from this time forth, there shall be no new Tavern, Inn, or Retail Grocery made or established, without the special [13] approbation and consent of the Director General and the Councillors, unanimously agreed to and permitted.

### II.

The Inns, Taverns, and Retail Groceries that are already in the city, may be permitted to continue at least for the four following years; yet, in the meantime, they shall be held under the additional obligation to employ themselves in some other honest business in these places, together with suitable and honest sureties living under the guardianship and supervision of this city of New Amsterdam, each one in conformity with his state, quality, and condition, according to the Order and Regulations made by the Director and Council, with the advice and approbation of the Surveyors of Buildings.

### III.

That the Inn-Keepers and Tapsters to whom we have granted yet four years, at least, who shall wish, for sufficient reasons, to change their business, after they shall have laid aside this their former business of Tapping, shall not be permitted to transfer the same to any other person nor yet, to this intent, Rent nor Sell their houses



and dwellings to any other person, without the previous advice, and full consent, and approbation, of the Director General and Councillors.

#### IV.

Item. The Inn-keepers and Tapsters, from this time forward, shall not be permitted to Sell, nor [14] Mix, nor Hand out to the Indians or Natives, any Beer, Wine, Brandy, or Waters, although it may be through the first, second, or third person that the Natives are supplied therewith, under the penalty of the forfeiture of their business and arbitrary correction, at the discretion of the Court.

#### V.

Item. They shall be obliged, for the prevention of all Fightings and Mischief, actually to report to the Officer, in case any one shall be injured or wounded in their houses, under the penalty of forfeiture of their business and One Pound, Flemish, for every hour after the injury or wound shall have been inflicted and during which time the Tapster or Inn-keeper shall conceal it.

#### VI.

The Proclamations heretofore issued against all unseasonable Night-tipping and Drunk-drinking on the Sabbath, shall be fulfilled by the Inn-keepers, with strict regard and observance, to wit: That, in the evening, they shall not keep Tavern after the ringing of the Bell, nor, on the Sabbath, Sell nor Deal out any Beer or Waters to any one (the Traveller and the Boarder alone excepted) before three of the clock in the afternoon, when there is Divine Service, under the penalty fixed by Proclamation.





## VII.

Item. They shall be obliged not to receive into their houses or cellars any Wines, Beers, or Ardent Spirits, directly nor indirectly, before [15] the receipt of the Invoice and the possession of the Bill, under the penalty of the forfeiture of their particular Business, Beers, and Spirits, and an exemplary fine, besides, at the discretion of the Court.

## VIII.

Finally. All Inn-keepers and Tapsters who may be minded to continue their Business, shall within the time of eight days after the publication and affixing of these presents, address and give in their persons and their names to the Director and Council, and there solemnly promise, punctually to fulfil all things whatsoever that, on the subject of Tapsters and Inn-keepers, have been ordered or hereafter may be ordered, in all their particulars, and to conduct themselves honestly in their business, as become loyal and honest subjects. Done at our session at Fort Amsterdam, this 10th March, Anno, 1648.

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[*Original, 10 ; Translation, 15, 16.*]

A P P E A R E D before the Council, Adriaen  
A Dircksen,\* Martin Crygier,† Jan Jansen

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\* ADRIAEN DIRCKSEN had been a Pilot of the port and an Assistant Commissary of Fort Amsterdam.—H. B. D.

† MARTIN CRYGIER undoubtedly kept his Tavern on what is now called Broadway, opposite the Bowling-green.—H. B. D.



Scheepmoes,\* Jan Saediger,† Philip Geraerdij,‡  
Sergeant Daniel Litscho, Gerrit Douman, Hendrick Smith,§ Cornelis Volckertsen,|| Abraham Pietersen,¶ George Rapaelje, and Pieter Andriessen, all Inn-keepers and Inhabitants of this city of New Amsterdam, who have given in their names and persons and whom [16] their Excellencies the Director General and the Councillors do hereby Publish, in pursuance of the Proclamation issued on the subject of Tapsters and put up in the Market, they having, on their honor, promised to observe said Proclamation, in all its meaning. Dated the 16th March, Anno, 1648, at New Amsterdam, in New Netherland.

[Original, 10; Translation, 16, 17.]

WHEREAS, by their High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors of

\* JAN JANSEN SCHEPMOES had been a resident of the Colony since 1638, having come over, in that year, in the *Dolphin*.—H. B. D.

† JAN SNEEDIGER probably kept house in Pearl-street, near the Fort. He was one of the Select-men of the city, and about 1652, he appears to have removed to Flatbush. L. I.—H. B. D.

‡ PHILIP GERARDIJ was the Landlord of the City Tavern.—H. B. D.

§ HENDRICK SMITH was probably HENDRICK JANSEN SMITH, who lived on what is now known as Broadway.—H. B. D.

|| CORNELIS VOLCKERTSEN undoubtedly kept his tavern on the Great Highway, now Broadway.—H. B. D.

¶ ABRAHAM PIETERSEN'S tavern was subsequently closed, by Order of the Director General and Council, dated the twenty-third of July, 1648, in consequence of the murder there of Gerrit Jansen Gomp by Johannes Rootenberch.—*Council Minutes*, iv., 328-302.

Pietersen had been Miller before he became Tavern-keeper; and, within a month after the closing of his Tavern, he was re-appointed to the same place (*Council Minutes*, iv., 413.) In 1658, he obtained permission to erect a water mill at the Kolk. He was one of the Eight men of the city, in 1643; and his daughter, Maritje, married Thomas Jansen Mingal.



New Netherland, it has been daily seen and observed that the Goats and Hogs are in the habit of daily committing great damage in the Orchards, Plantations, and other Productions, here and about Fort Amsterdam, not only to the discouraging of the cultivation of fine Orchards and Gardens, but, also, to many great and particular damages:

Therefore, their High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors, desirous of making provision in the premises from this time forth, do Ordain and Enact that, between the Fort New Amsterdam,\* or thereabout, and the Fresh-water, no Hogs nor Goats shall be pastured or kept, except within their own inclosures. Care must also be had, that the Goats do not get out of their inclosures; and that they do no damage to any one. Also, that Goats shall not be pastured beyond the Fresh-water, without a Herds-man or Keeper under the [17] penalty—in case the Goats shall be found outside their inclosure, or on this side of the Fresh-water, or, on the other side of the Fresh-water, without a Herds-man or Keeper—of their being attached by the Fiscaal and of being declared, by their

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\* It is evident that the Translator, in this place, has misunderstood the in cut of the Order and misinterpreted its meaning.

The "Fort Amsterdam," in the original, has been correctly translated in the Preamble of this Order; but the words "*forticatie Nieuw Amsterdam*" in the original, which have been here rendered "Fort New Amsterdam," clearly indicate something else than the Fort at the lower end of the city, where "the orchards and plantations" referred to were not to be found.

We submit, therefore, that it would have been a more correct rendering of the original if the Translator had said, instead of "between Fort New Amsterdam and the Fresh-water," as in the text, "between the outer defences of New Amsterdam or their vicinity, and the Fresh-water."—H. B. D.



High Mightinesses, to be forfeited. Be each one hereby warned, that he suffer no damage. Done on the 10th of March, 1648, and suspended and published on the 16th of March, at New Amsterdam, in New Netherland.

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[*Original, 11; Translation, 17-19.*]

PETRUS STUYVESANT, in behalf of their High Mightinesses the States General of the United Netherlands, His High and Mighty Lord the Prince of Orange, and their High Mightinesses the Gentlemen Directors of the General Privileged West India Company, Director General over New Netherland, Curacao, &c. and the Islands of the same, together with their High Mightinesses, the Councillors:

Whereas, we have seen and observed that, notwithstanding our Decrees and Ordinances heretofore issued concerning the keeping and sanctifying the Holy Sabbath, according to the holy command of God, it has not been observed according to our intent and meaning; and, Whereas, the Sabbath, in various ways, has been profaned and desecrated, to the great scandal, offence, and reproach of the Community and the neighboring strangers who frequent these places, and to the villifying and contemning of God's Holy [18] Word and our Ordinances flowing therefrom,

Therefore, we the Director General and the Councillors aforesaid, for the purpose of averting, as much as lies in their power, the dreaded wrath and punishment of God, through this sin and other misdemeanors, from themselves and their subjects, Do, by these Presents, Decree, Renovate, and Amplify our former Proclamations and Ordinances; having for the better observance of the





same, with the approbation of the Minister of God's Word, Ordained that, from this time forth, in the afternoon as well as in the forenoon, there shall be preaching from God's Word and the usual exercises of Christian prayer and praise; requesting and charging, for that purpose, all their Officers, Subjects, and Vassals, to frequent and attend the same; forbidding, in the meanwhile, during Divine Service, in conformity with our previous Proclamations, all Taverning, Fishing, Hunting, and other usual occupations, handicrafts, and professions, whether in Houses, Cellars, Shops, Ships, Sloops, or in the Streets and Markets, under the forfeiture of such wares, merchandise, or property, or the redemption of the same with the sum of Twenty-five Guilders, until otherwise ordered, to be applied for the benefit of the Poor and the Church; and, furthermore, One pound, Flemish, in case either buyers or sellers, the hirers or the hired, who may transgress [ ] to be applied, one half to the officers the other half at the discretion of the Court. Furthermore, we do hereby Enact and Forbid, that no one shall, on the fore part [19] of the day, give himself up to foolish drinking and other excesses, to the scandal and offence of others, under the penalty, in case any one be thus found, of being chastised by our Piscal or any of the higher or lower officers, at their discretion. Done and, after the resumption, agreed to and published on the 29th April, 1648, at New Amsterdam in New Netherland.

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[Original, 12; Translation, 10, 20.]

**W**HEREAS, by daily experience, it has been seen and observed that, notwithstanding it



has been forbidden several times, by former Proclamations, that any one should Tap, Hand out, Mingle, or Sell through a third or fourth person, directly or indirectly, any Strong Drink, to the Indians or natives of this Country, we must daily see before our eyes that the Indians are running about, through the Mannhattans, in a state of intoxication; and that the inhabitants, living without, experience great vexation from the drunken Indians, whereby, as formerly, fresh animosities and wars are to be apprehended: Therefore, His Excellency, the Director General and the Honorable the Councillors have resolved, once more, to enact the former Proclamations, and hereby peremptorily to forbid, and we do by these Presents peremptorily forbid, the Handing out, the Mingling, or the Selling of any Strong Drinks, by whatever name or mark they may be known; and in case any person, after this date, shall be convicted of these offences, though it should be, even, through the information of the Indians themselves—to whom, for weighty reasons, credit shall be given [20] in this case,—he shall, over and above the penalty established by former Proclamations, be arbitrarily punished without any dissimulation, since it is far better that such evil-disposed persons should be punished than that the Country and Community in general should suffer damage through them. Done on the 13th May, Anno, 1648, at the Session in Fort Amsterdam, in New Netherland.

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[Original, 13; Translation, 20, 21.]

WHEREAS, by their High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors, it has been noticed and observed, with great con-



cern, that many of the Scotch Merchants and small traders who, from time to time, have come out of their country with the ship, doing or aiming at nothing else than, by the underselling and manner of trading, to destroy Trade, selling their goods very rapidly, giving Eleven to Twelve Guilders in loose seawant for one Beaver, and having sold out, going with their ships whence they may return the same year, without leaving or doing any benefit to the Country, to the injury of the inhabitants, who, by their freehold and birth, are obliged to bear all the burdens:

Therefore, for the purpose of preventing such destroyers of Trade, it is deemed advisable and necessary for New Netherland and the inhabitants thereof, to Enact and Ordain that, from this time forth, all Scotch merchants and small dealers who come from their country with vessels, with the intention of trading here with Christians or Heathens, at wholesale or retail, shall not be permitted to carry on the least trade in the land, except [21] in case they shall have had a residence here, in New Netherland, three following and succeeding years; and, furthermore, they shall be compelled, within one year after their Privilege and Opportunity, to erect a decent and habitable Tenement in this city of New Amsterdam. All traders and others who are in possession of one habitable Tenement, and who have resided three years in the place, shall be permitted to Trade, and not otherwise, (the Merchant or Schipper of their High Mightinesses's vessels alone excepted), Provided, the same shall not be permitted to have any shop on the land. Done in the presence of His High Mightiness the Director General, His Excellency Dincklage; Mons. la Montagne, Brian Newton, and Paulus Leendert-



seen, on the 18th September, Anno, 1648, at New Amsterdam.

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[*Original, 14; Translation, 21.*]

**B**Y His High Mightiness the Director General and their Excellencies the Councillors of New Netherland, the Fire-wardens are charged and ordered to prevent all accidents by fire in this city of New Amsterdam; to visit all around; to see whether every one keeps his Chimneys clean by sweeping; and, in case any one is found to be deficient, immediately to demand the penalty of Three Guilders, which shall be appropriated agreeably to the Proclamation, on this subject, published on the 21st January, 1648. Done and Ordained in Session, at Fort Amsterdam, on the 28th September, 1648. Present, His High Mightiness the Director General, L. Van Dincklage, la Montagne, Brian Newton, Paul: Leendertsen.

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[*Original, 14; Translation, 22.*]

**W**HEREAS, there are daily complaints made by the Indians and Natives, to their High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors that some of the Inhabitants are in the habit of setting the natives at work, of availing themselves of their labor, and of letting them go off unpaid after the work has been done; and as the refusal to pay the Indians for their labor is contrary to the right of all people, for which reason the Indians are threatening, in case they are not satisfied and paid, that they will take their pay by resorting to other unbecoming measures:





Therefore, for the timely and possible prevention of all mischief, their High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors do hereby warn all inhabitants who are indebted to the Indians for their daily wages or otherwise, to pay the same without any gainsaying; and, in case of the employment of the Indians for the future, they shall be under the same obligation, or the statement or complaint of the Indians—to whom, for reasons in the case, credit shall be given—to make payment therefore, under such a fine as, according to the occasion, shall be deemed right. Done in Session and Published on the 28th September, 1648, at New Amsterdam: Present, His High Mightiness the Director General, L. Van Dineklage, la Montagne, B. Newton, Paulus Leendertsen.

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[*Original, 15: Translation, 23.*]

WHEREAS their High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors do daily notice and observe that by some of the inhabitants of New Netherland, the servants of the Honorable Company, and others of their domesticities, whenever the same run away from their Lords and masters, and also those, from without, who come from our near neighbors, are harbored at their homes and in their houses, whereby it is caused that many servants, whenever they serve unwillingly, have the means and the way given to them for running away, which occurs daily; and that their High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors may make all possible and practicable provision to prevent such things, their High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors do, by these pres-



ents, advertise and warn every person to give no harbor or lodging to any of the servants, whether of the Honorable Company or of any other persons living here or elsewhere, at the longest, no longer than twenty-four hours; and in case any one shall be found to have acted contrary to this he shall forfeit One hundred and fifty Stivers as satisfaction, which shall be appropriated as the Prosecutor, to whom it is due, shall direct. Done, in Session, this 6th October, Anno, 1643: Present. His High Mightiness the Director General: L. Van Diecklage, B. Newton, Paulus Leendertsen.

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[*Original, 16; Translation, 24.*]

WHEREAS their High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors of New Netherland, by Proclamation, have long ago admonished the Community in general to improve their house-lots by building on the Island of Manhattans, which before now have been surveyed as Plantations, and the more so since these lots have been built on by some of the Inhabitants; and Whereas, certain persons are desirous of building and have no place near this, that is suitable for building a house on, Therefore, by the considerate and excellent the Director General and the Councillors it is deemed advisable to make known to every one, for the last time, for the improvement of their house-lots to erect suitable buildings; and in default thereof, that their Excellencies the Director General and Council shall point out to such persons as may be inclined to build houses in this city of New Amsterdam, suitable sites for that purpose and award to the present actual settlers a reasonable com-



pensation for the same, at the discretion of the Surveyors of Buildings.\*

It is also hereby farther advertised, in case any one feels inclined to build, he shall be pleased to give in his name to the Secretary, upon which having been done the Order shall be issued accordingly. Done, published, and affixed, in Session, on the 15th December, Anno, 1648, at New Amsterdam, in New Netherland. Present: The Director General: His Excellency Dincklage, La Montagne, Brian Newton, and Paulus Leendertsen.

*[The following Orders, properly belonging in this place, but not recorded in the Archives of the city, may be found in the "Appendix to Part "I." of this volume:]*

XI. Notice of the reduction of the duty on tobacco, April 21, 1649.

XII. Ordinance relative to writings to be used as evidence. Made May 8, 1649.—H. B. D.]

*[Original, 17; Translation, 25, 26.]*

THEIR High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors of New Netherland having daily noticed that their Order, heretofore

\* The Surveyors of Buildings here referred to, were Lubbert Van Dincklage, Paulus Leendertsen Van der Grist, and Cornelis Van Tienloven, whose appointments were made by Order of the Director General and Council, dated the twenty-fifth of July, 1647.

By the same Order, the Grantees of House lots in New Amsterdam were ordered to improve such lots within nine months or suffer the penalty of forfeiture: hence the Government, in using the peremptory tone of this Order, was fully warranted by the Supreme Law of the Province.—H. B. D.



made and ordained, on the subject of Measures and Weights has not been well observed by some, whereby the good inhabitants have been greatly defrauded, Therefore, their High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors do hereby give notice to all the great and the small Dealers, together with the Bakers, and all others who sell aught by the Ell-measure or by weight, in selling and in buying to make use of the just Amsterdam Ell, weight and measure; and, that all things may be transacted in an orderly manner, the Director General and the Councillors do, by these Presents, advertise all the inhabitants and traders, between this date and the first day of August next ensuing, to provide and procure for themselves, just Amsterdam Ells, weights, and measures; and that in the meantime those that may, for the present time, have any weights, shall bring the same to the Warehouse of the Company, in Port Amsterdam, for the purpose of having them weighed and measured, so that, for the time to come, no one of our subjects shall suffer loss therefrom; and that all things may be regarded and observed with greater zeal by all and each one, our Fiscal, Hendrick Van Dyck, is hereby charged and authorized, after the expiration of the first day of August next ensuing, to inspect all weights and measures, as often as he shall think proper; and in case any shall be found using unjust ells, weights, or measures, he shall pay such fine as in the premises may have been established in Father-land. Let every one be hereby warned and keep himself from harm.\* [26]

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\* On the fifteenth of December, 1644, the Board of Accounts "Reported and Advised" the Assembly of the Company to provide, "that the Amsterdam measures, ell and weight shall be "used throughout the entire country." It is not clear, however, that this recommendation was adopted—if adopted, it





Done in Session, on the 17th July; resumed and affixed, the 19th July, Anno, 1649, at New Amsterdam, in New Netherland.

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[Original, 18; Translation, 26, 27.]

The Director General and the Councillors of New Netherland, to all and each one that may read these presents or hear them read, Send Greeting :

Whereas, with great concern we have noticed and observed that the foregoing Ordinances made against frauds and smuggling, which have been Ordained concerning the Beers given out by the Tapsters and Inn-Keepers;\* also, that not-

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certainly, was not enforced—until the arrival of Stuyvesant in the Colony; and although this Order recites a previous Order on the same subject, it is positively stated in the *Remonstrance of the Deputies of the New Netherland*, addressed to the States General on the twenty eighth of July, 1649, by Adriaen van der Donck and others, that this was the *first* issued on the subject. Their language was: "Not a thing had been done concerning Weights and Measures and the like, previous to the 23<sup>d</sup> July, of the year 1649, at which time the people were notified that an Order on the subject would be issued the ensuing August, which the Fiscaal would then enforce—this was as much as to say: 'Water the Pigeons.'"

On the twenty-seventh of the succeeding January, (1650) the West India Company presented an Answer to the *Remonstrance* referred to, in which the particular subject now under consideration was thus alluded to: "We are not aware of any other but the Dutch ell, measure and weight being in use; and an Order was issued, last Summer, that all the inhabitants should bring their weights into the Company's warehouse, to be stamped anew there."—H. B. D.

\* Vide Orders of Director Kieft, dated June 28, 1611, and July 4, 1647; and the Order of Director Stuyvesant and Council, dated March 10, 1648, etc.

This Excise, which was the only Tax levied on the Colonists, originated in the necessities arising in the General War with the Indians, in 1644, and it was imposed, as a temporary necessity, with the consent of the Eight men chosen by the Community, on the twenty-eighth of June, in that year.

It was openly resisted at the beginning, and Kieft was ob-



withstanding our forgoing Ordinances, some few of the Inhabitants make it a business to Tap and Brew at the same time, whereby not only the customary duty has been defrauded but, also, other Tapsters who make that their only business, have been injured in their profession,\* Wherein, in conformity with the General Order from Father-Land, and willing to apply the remedy, We ordain and order, by these Presents, that no inhabitant following the business of Brewing \* \* \* \* \* nor by the small measure, excepting at meal-time, Tap, Sell, nor hand out, any Beers, Wines, or Waters, not even to Boarders nor to those whom they may pretend are boarding with them, under which pretense we have observed great frauds have been practised.† To prevent both the one and the other, We do moreover ordain that, from this time forth, no Beers nor any Wines, shall be moved out of the cellars of any Brewery or Warehouse, nor be lodged in the houses of the Tapsters, except they shall have first been given in at the office of the Secretary, and the Sledgemen or Carriers of the same shall have brought [27] back a Bill of Delivery, signed

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liged to employ force in executing it, notwithstanding the urgency of the situation and the promise of the Director that "it should continue only, until the arrival of a Company's ship, "a new Director, or the end of the war." At a later period, it was avoided whenever it could be done, as the Ordinances show; yet it is said to have produced, yearly, in Stuyvesant's time, not less than Four Thousand Guilders, in this city alone.

\* Vide Order of the Director General and Council, dated January 12, 1648, which, "agreeable to the order and practice in "Holland," denied to Brewers the privilege of Tapping and Retailing the Beer which they brewed.

† As the Excise was paid, one half by the Tapster the other half by the Brewer, it will be seen that the Government held no check over the business when both branches were followed by the same person. Hence the necessity of the Order of January 12, 1648, as well as that of this Re-issue of it.—H. B. D.



by the First Clerk of the Secretary, which Bill shall be shown and exhibited on the same day at was brought and signed, to our Fiscal, Hendrick Van Dyck, or to the person whom the Fiscal shall have substituted in his place, during his absence. We do insist upon every one and all the Brewers, not to deliver any Beers, nor give them to any Sledgemen or Beer-carriers, until they shall have first shown a Bill of Delivery, in the penalty of forfeiting the Beers and Wines, and all the utensils, whether they be Horses, Sledges, or any other instruments where-by the same may be removed, and an arbitrary correction of those who may be accessory thereto.\* Done, and after the resumption agreed to, in our Session, at Fort Amsterdam, on the 8th November, Anno, 1649, signed by,

P. STUYVESANT  
L. VAN DINCKLAGE  
H. VAN DYCK  
LA MONTAGNE  
BRIAN NEWTON

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[*Original, 19; Translation, omitted.*]†

**T**HE Director General and Councillors of New Netherland to all who shall read these presents or hear them read.

Considering the abundant complaints presented to us by many of our inhabitants concerning the poor quality of the large bread and the right weight of the white bread, with other than which the good people cannot with the ordinary cur-

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\* Vide Order of Director General and Council, dated March 16, 1648, Section vii.—H. B. D.

† This Ordinance was overlooked by the Translator, Doctor Westbrook, and we have been favored with this translation of it, by John Paulding, Esqr.—H. B. D.



réncy be accommodated by the bakers, the cause and foundation of which is understood to be that the Indians or natives of the country seek the white bread in preference to the black and pay the bakers for the same with perfect Seawant, which our inhabitants from want of perfect seawant cannot do in their purchase.

The consequences of which is that from the inclination of greater profit the Indians and barbarous natives are better accommodated than the christians. In consideration of which the Director General and Councillors with a view to the best service of the community according to their best ability as occasion affords, do ordain and command by these presents, that for the future no baker shall bake any white bread or cakes for sale, or permit the same to be baked, nor shall sell the same to either christians or natives, on penalty of forfeiture of all that shall be baked and of fifty carolus guilders from such as fail to comply. Excepting nevertheless that no inhabitant shall be prohibited by these presents, to bake or have baked a sufficiency of white bread for their ordinary and proper meals as their occasion shall require, provided they observe in other respects the orders of the court.

Interdicting and forbidding likewise as we do by these presents, interdict and forbid the public sale and consumption of white bread and cakes either to the Indians or to the inhabitants, and for the purpose of condemning the frauds and in respect to the ordinary bread, and in order that neither the Indians nor the Inhabitants shall be injured by inferior weight the above mentioned Director General and Councillors order that those following the business of baking bread shall hereafter bake the same of pure wheat or pure rye, as it comes from the mill, of the weight of





five, four and two pounds, at a price in conformity with the orders that shall from time to time be announced by the court for the purchase of grain.

This done resolved and established at our meeting this 8th November 1649.

Was under written

P. STUYVESANT  
L. VAN DINCKLAGE  
H. VAN DYCK  
LA MONTAGNE  
BRIAN NEWTON

1755293

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[*Original, 20; Translation, 27, 28.*]

THE DIRECTOR and the Councillors of New Netherland having remarked the scarcity of the crops of the past year; and also that there is a great complaint among our good inhabitants, that already they have scarcely a subsistence of Bread for themselves and their children, to be had of the Bakers, and the apprehension is that if there is not a reasonable interposition, there will be a farther deficiency of Bread-corn and a greater advance in price:

Therefore, [23] by these Presents, it is ordained by the Director and Councillors, that from this time forth, until our further Order and a greater supply of Grain, no Brewer shall be permitted to Malt or Brew any Wheat, under the penalty of the forfeiture of the Malted Wheat and arbitrary correction. And, furthermore, by these Presents, they do interdict and forbid that any Wheat, Rye, or Baked Bread shall be transported out of the Province of New Netherland until the time when, by our more exact estimate of the quantity of Grain and the yearly necessary consumption,



our necessary consent to such transportation shall be given. Done and approved in our Session, this 8th November, 1649. Undersigned by

P. STUYVESANT  
L. VAN DINCKLAGE  
H. VAN DYCK  
JA MONTAGNE  
BRIAN NEWTON.

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[Original, 21; Translation, 28, 29.]

**W**HEREAS the Director and Councillors of New Netherland have been informed, that in and concerning the selling of real estate, such as Houses and Gardens, House-lots, and other lands, there are practised various clandestine abuses and frauds, to the great injury of older creditors:

Therefore, the Director and Councillors of New-Netherland, by these Presents, do charge their Secretary and, in his absence, the first Clerk, not to pass nor sign any transport of Real estate [29] until, at the stated Court-day, it shall have been examined and approved by the Director and Councillors; Declaring, by these Presents, all Contracts and Transports null and void which, after this date, shall have been passed without their approbation and ratification, or signatures. Done and approved in Session at Fort Amsterdam, this 7th of February, Anno. 1650. Was undersigned by

P. STUYVESANT  
L. VAN DINCKLAGE  
H. VAN DYCK, Fiscall.,  
JA MONTAGNE.



[*Original, 21 ; Translation, 29.*]

THE Director General and the Councillors have granted the request of the Bakers, and they have the privilege, for the accommodation of the Community, of baking White Bread (but no Cakes nor Cracknels) Provided they shall bake the White Bread so as to conform in weight with the order of the Father-land. Furthermore, the Bakers are charged and interdicted, that they shall bake the common Bread of naught else than pure Wheat and Rye flour, as it comes from the mill, so that the community may be protected against complaints concerning the poverty and leanness of the common Bread. Dated this 14th April, Anno. 1650, at the Session at Fort Amsterdam.\*

[*Original, 22 ; Translation, 30, 31.*]

THE Director General and the Councillors of New Netherland, to all persons who may see these Presents, or hear them read, Send Greeting.

Whereas, with great concern, we have observed, both now and for a long time past, the depreciation and corruption of the loose Seawant, among which there are current many that are not perforated and half-finished ; and others made of Stone, Bone, Glass, Muscle-shells, Horns, and even of Wood ; and broken ones, whereby occasion is given for repeated complaints from the inhabitants, that they cannot go with such Seawant to the Market, nor yet procure for themselves any commodity, not even a mean White-loaf of Bread, nor a Can of Beer, at the Mer-

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\* This Order modified that which had been issued by the Governor and Council on the eighth of November, 1643.--H. B. D.



chants', the Bakers', or the Tapsters', for the loose Seawant, Wherein, according to our best ability, desirous of making provision in this emergency, We have resolved and determined, for the furtherance of business and the general good, that, from this time forth, no loose Seawant shall be current, nor be a lawful tender, except that the same shall be strung on one string, as the general custom has been heretofore. For the purpose of preventing the introduction and the circulation of all clumsy and unperforated Seawant; for the purpose of making a difference betwixt the commercial Seawant and the strung Seawant; and in order to prevent all misunderstanding for the time to come, the Director General and Councilors aforesaid do hereby ordain that the commercial Seawant [31] shall be current and be a lawful tender, as formerly, to wit: Six White or Three Black Seawants for one Silver; and, on the other hand, the base strung Seawant shall pass, Eight White or Four Black for one Silver. We Ordain, by these Presents, and charge all persons, to regulate themselves according to the tenor of these Presents; and in case of refusal, to abandon their Trade and Business; and the Fiscal is ordered, by these Presents, after the publication of the same, to affix these and to publish them every where it may be necessary, and to make use of every means to have the same acted upon and executed.\* Done, resumed, and

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\* Vide Order of Director Kieft and Council, dated November 30, 1647, on this subject.

As early as 1634, Wampum had become, "in a manner, the "currency of the country, with which the produce of the Indian prior was paid for"; and many years after, (1649) the value of it seems to have been very uncertain.

Stuyvesant seems to have had no desire to meddle with the currency of the country, even when requested by the Selectmen; and it was made a subject of formal complaint against





approved at our Session at Fort Amsterdam, this 30th May, Anno, 1650, in N. Netherland.

[Original, 23; Translation, 31, 32.]

THEIR High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors of New Netherland, to all persons who may hear, see, or read these Presents, Send Greeting.

Whereas, experience has shown that this fortress, formerly in tolerable state, has been, in a great degree, trodden down by the Hogs, and Goats, and Sheep; and in conformity with the order of their High Mightinesses, the Gentlemen Directors, our Lords, our Superiors, and Patroons, men are now employed in repairing and restoring the same; and it is to be apprehended that as before, it may again become damaged and trodden down by the Goats, the Sheep, the Hogs, or some other Cattle; Therefore, their High Mightinesses the Director General [32] and the Councillors, by these Presents do warn all and every one of the Inhabitants of this place, that, in conformity with our former Proclamations,\* that they shall not suffer to run at large without a Herdsman or Driver, except within their own inclosures, any Hogs, Sheep, Goats, Horses,

Men, to the Home Government, by Adriaen van der Donck and others, in July, 1643.

Van Tienhoven, in his defence of the Administration, in 1650, said "the reason for not prohibiting *unstringed* wampum " was, because no money was in circulation, and mechanics, " farmers, and the rest of the Commonalty, *having no other* " currency, would suffer serious loss."

Stuyvesant, in the Order before us, evidently made the first advance to a contraction of this currency; and we cannot but admire the moderation of his measure.—H. B. D.

\* Vide Order of the Director General and Council, dated July 1, 1647, and March 15, 1648.—H. B. D.



or Kine, between this place and the Honorable the Company's farm, [*Bowery*].\* to the end of their High Mightinesses Pasture-ground, at present occupied by Thomas Hall,† nor between the house of Mr. Isaac Allerton,‡ in the penalty of Six Guilders, for the first offence; for every Horse, Kine, Hog, or Sheep that may be found within the aforesaid limits for the second time, double fine; and for the third time, the whole shall be confiscated, to be appropriated at pleasure. Done, approved, and published, on the 27th of June, Anno, 1750, at New Amsterdam in New Netherland.

[*Original, 24; Translation, 32, 33.*]

THE Director General and the Councillors of New Netherland, to all persons who shall hear, see, or read these Presents, Send Greeting :

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\* "THE COMPANY'S FARM," subsequently known as "The Duke's farm" and "The King's farm," extended from the present line of Broadway to the North river, and from the southern line of Fulton to a line between Warren and Chambers streets, on the North.—H. B. D.

† THOMAS HALL having been already noticed by us, it remains only for us to remark, in this place that he lived in 1630, "on a little bowery belonging to the Company." It is not now very clear to us where that "bowery" was, but we are inclined to think it was on the present line of Chatham-street or that of the Bowery.—H. B. D.

‡ ISAAC ALLETON, one of the celebrated Pilgrim fathers of New England, arrived at Plymouth, in the *Mayflower*, in 1620; and was one of the richest of the Colonists and, for three years, the Assistant of the Colony and its chief Magistrate.

He removed to New Amsterdam at an early date; entered into business with Govert Loockerman, a thriving merchant there, under the firm of Allerton & Loockerman; and was widely respected throughout the Colony.

He was one of the Eight men chosen by the Commonalty, and died in 1639.

He probably lived where he had bought property in April, 1617, on "the strand" of the East river, not far from the present line of Beekman-street.



Whereas, by the daily complaints of the inhabitants, we are informed that our foregoing Order and Proclamation concerning the base strung Seawant, issued for the accommodation and pacification of the inhabitants, under the date of the thirtieth of May, 1650, are not observed and executed according to our good intention and meaning, but that on the contrary such payment has been refused and rejected, even for [33] trifling articles by Shop-keepers, Brewers, Bakers, Tapsters, Mechanics, and Day-laborers, to the great confusion and discommoding of the Inhabitants in general, there being at present no other Specie, with which they can accommodate one another in the articles of their small daily commerce; Therefore, once more, for the accommodation and pacification of the Inhabitants, being desirous of doing whatever is practicable, the Director and Councilors, by these Presents, do Ordain and Decree that, in conformity with our former Proclamations, the base strung Seawant shall be current, and shall be received by every one, without any distinction or exception, in payment for small and daily necessary commodities in house-keeping; and that, on the other hand, the sum of Twelve Guilders or under shall be paid all in base strung Seawant; from Twelve to Twenty-four Guilders, half and half, that is to say, half base and half good strung Seawant; from Twenty-five to Fifty Guilders, one-third base strung and two-thirds good strung Seawant; and in larger sums agreeably to the agreement between the buyer and seller, under the penalty of Six Guilders for the first time's refusal and resisting of these Presents; for the second offence, Nine Guilders; and for the third offence, Two Pounds, Flemish, and a prohibition from his Handicraft and Business,



in conformity with our former Proclamations. Done and approved in our Session of the Director General and the Councillors, this 14th of September, Anno, 1650, at New Amsterdam in New Netherland.

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*[The following Orders, properly belonging in this place, but not recorded in the Archives of the city, may be found in the "Appendix to Part "I." of this volume:]*

XIII. Ordinance regulating the assize of bread and the price of wine, brandy, &c. Issued June 5, 1651.

XIV. Order appointing Messrs. Kuyper, van der Grist, and Cornelison to the Board of Nine Men. January 30, 1652.

XV. Ordinance regulating the business of the wind-mill and the toll to be paid for grinding. Issued February, 1652.

XVI. Ordinance regulating the driving of carts, wagons, and sleighs. Issued June 27, 1652.

XVII. Ordinance against boarding ships arriving at New Amsterdam before the same are entered. Issued June 27, 1652.

XVIII. Ordinance reducing the duty on furs. Issued September 4, 1652.

XIX. Ordinance against runners trading in the Mohawk or Seneca country. Issued September 30, 1652.

XX. Ordinance against firing at partridges or other game within the limits of New Amsterdam. Issued October 9, 1652.

XXI. Appointment of Jacob Kip to be the Secretary or Clerk of the Burgomasters and Schepens of New Amsterdam. January 27, 1653.





XXII. Ordinance regulating the inspection of tobacco. Issued February 18, 1653.

XXIII. Resolution to build a weigh-house in New Amsterdam, and to regulate Weights and Measures. Passed February 26, 1653.

XXIV. Approval of propositions by the city authorities. March 14 and 17, 1653.

XXV. Ordinance imposing a new duty on Wines and Liquors. Issued March 26, 1653.

XXVI. Ordinance amending the excise law. Issued August 18, 1653.

XXVII. Ordinance fixing prices of goods sold in New Amsterdam. Issued November 19, 1653.

XXVIII. Petition of the city authorities concerning the excise on Beer and Wine in New Amsterdam, and the action thereon. November 25, 1653.

XXIX. Remonstrance against the ordinance issued on the nineteenth instant, and the action thereon. November 22, 23, and 28, and December 24, 1653.

XXX. Petition of the city authorities concerning the Convention of Towns, and the action thereon. November 29 and December 3, 1653.

XXXI. Petition of the city authorities concerning the election of their successors, and the action thereon. January 27 and 28, 1654.

XXXII. Ordinance imposing duties on certain goods. Issued January 28, 1654.

XXXIII. Petition of the city authorities concerning a municipal revenue; and the action thereon. February 19 and 23, 1654.

XXXIV. Petition of the city authorities concerning English privateers, and the action thereon. February 19 and 23, 1654.

XXXV. Answer to the Municipal Remonstrance concerning the plucking the goose on



the Bacchanals of Ash Wednesday. February 26, 1654.

XXXVI. Ordinance against harboring robbers and pirates. Issued April 8, 1654.

XXXVII. Letter from the city authorities concerning the case of Peter Cock, and the action thereon. February 19 and April 30, 1654.

XXXVIII. Order concerning lewd women in New Amsterdam. Issued May 23, 1654.

XXXIX. Order concerning the ministers' salaries. Issued June 1, 1654.

XL. Proposals to the city authorities concerning the defences of New Amsterdam, and their action thereon. June 13, 1654.

XLI. Pledge, on the same subject, offered to the city authorities, and their action thereon. June 13, 1654.

XLII. Order concerning the defences of the Colony, issued June 14, and the action of the city authorities thereon, June 15, 1654.

XLIII. Ordinance regulating the ferry. Issued July 1, 1654.

XLIV. Ordinance concerning removals of persons and property from the city in cases of alarm. Issued July 7, 1654.

XLV. Ordinance concerning the circulation of false alarms. Issued July 11, 1654.

XLVI. Ordinance directing the impounding of Goats and Sheep. Issued July 11, 1654.

XLVII. Order appointing Jacques Cortelyou to be Schout of New Amsterdam, and his declension. July 21, 1654.

XLVIII. Resolution concerning the past conduct of the city authorities. Passed July 21, 1654.

XLIX. Order to the city authorities concerning a return of the revenues and expenditures. Passed August 2, 1654.



L. Ordinance regulating the Weigh-house and Scales. Issued August 10, 1654.

LI. Resolution concerning the excise of the city. Passed August 13, 1654.

LII. Ordinance regulating the duties of the Provost-marshal. Issued August 20.

LIII. Ordinance imposing a tax on horned cattle and land. Issued August 24, 1654.

LIV. Ordinance concerning the sale of liquor to Indians. Issued August 28, 1654.

LV. Resolution and letter from the city authorities on various subjects, and the action thereon. August 10 and 31, and September 16, 1654.

LVI. Remonstrance of the city authorities concerning the excise, and the action thereon. November 23 and 25, 1654.

LVII. Proceedings on being informed of the Director-general's intention to go to Curacao. December 8, 1654.

LVIII. Appointments and promotions in the Burgher Companies. December 17, 1654.

LIX. Ordinance against breaking or stealing clapboards, fences, firewood, etc. Issued December 31, 1654.

LX. Appointment of the Burgomasters and Schepens of New Amsterdam, and their oaths of office. January 31 and February 2, 1655.

LXI. Appointment of Direk Van Schelluyne to be Marshal of the Courts in New Amsterdam, and his commission, instructions, and oath of office. February 6, 1655.

LXII. Table of fees for deed of real estate. February 23, 1655.

LXIII. Orders concerning sheet-piling of the City Hall. Issued February 23, 1655.

LXIV. Order concerning the transfer of the City Hall. Issued March 2, 1655.



LXV. Appointment of P. W. Van Couwenhoven to be City Surveyor. March 2, 1655.

LXVI. Ordinance concerning the inspection of tobacco. Issued March 10, 1655.

LXVII. Appointment of Schoolmaster and Church-clerk of New Amsterdam. March 23, 1655.

LXVIII. Appointment of Tobacco Inspector at New Amsterdam. April 13, 1655.

LXIX. Appointment of Firewardens for the city. April 13, 1655.

LXX. Ordinance imposing a duty on negroes exported. August 6, 1655.

LXXI. Order concerning North-river boatmen. August 23, 1655.

LXXII. Resolution concerning Jewish militiamen. August 23, 1655.

LXXIII. Ordinance for the preservation of fences. Issued October 11, 1655.

LXXIV. Resolution empowering the Burgomasters to raise money for public purposes. Passed October 11, 1655.

LXXV. Ordinance concerning persons going into the country. Issued October 16, 1655.

LXXVI. Order authorizing the Burgomasters to raise money for public purposes. Passed October 16, 1655.

LXXVII. Ordinance concerning intercourse with the Indians. Issued October 18, 1655.

LXXVIII. Petition of the city authorities concerning Orphan-masters in New Amsterdam, and the action thereon. October 18 and 19, 1655.

LXXIX. Ordinance concerning goats running at large. Issued November 5, 1655.

LXXX. Appointment of Commissioners for paving out the streets in New Amsterdam. November 10, 1655.





LXXXI. Ordinance concerning the tavern excise. Issued November 29, 1665.

LXXXII. Ordinance fixing the price of Beer. Issued November 29, 1665.

LXXXIII. Order concerning the price of liquors in New Amsterdam. Issued November 29, 1665.

LXXXIV. Order concerning the price of beer in New Amsterdam. Issued November 30, 1665.]

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[*Original, 23; Translation, 36, 37.*]

THE Director General and the Councillors of the New Netherland to all Persons who shall hear, see, or read these Presents, Greeting.

Whereas experience has shown and taught us that on New-Year's Days and on May days, from the firing of guns, and planting May-poles, and drunken drinking, there have resulted unnecessary waste of powder, much drunkenness, and other insolent practices, together with other lamentable accidents and bruises that generally arise therefrom, Therefore, in order to prevent these, it is hereby expressly ordered, by the Director General and the Councillors, that, from this time forth, within this Province of New-Netherland, on the New-Year and May-days, there shall be no firing, nor May-poles planted; nor shall there be any beating of the drum; nor shall there be on the occasion, any Wines, Brandywines, or Beer dealt out; and, in order to prevent all such accidents and injuries, there shall be a fine of Twelve Guilders for the first offence; Twenty-four Guilders for the second offence; and arbitrary correction for the third offence; the One-third for the Officers, One-third for the Poor, and the remaining One-third for the Prosecutor.



We do, by these Presents, com[37]maad all the Subaltern Courts in this Province, to Proclaim these Presents, in all their public places, and to affix them there; and promptly to execute them.

Done in the Fort Amsterdam, in New Netherland, this last day of December; Anno 1655.

Signed by order of their High Mightinesses  
The Director General and the Councillors  
of New-Netherland.

C. V. RUYVEN, Secretary.

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[*Original, 29, 30; Translation, 37-39.*]

WHEREAS painful experience has, from time to time, taught us concerning the separated habitations at the outside end, (plainly against the order and benevolent intention of the Honorable the Company and their Chief Magistracy, the Councillors) of the even land, in several hovels and places, there are perpetrated many and various murders, killing of persons, destruction of cattle, and the burning of houses, both now and formerly committed by the Indians or natives of this land, all which might have been prevented, through the help of God, if the good inhabitants of this Province, in their form of Towns, Neighborhoods, and Hamlets, had settled down close to one another, after the manner of our near neighbours of New-England, who, in consequence of their combination and living close to one another, have never been exposed to as manifold and general catastrophes as we have, together with our countrymen: to be ascribed in the first, to the righteous correction of God for our Sins, and then to the Indians, tempted thereto by the separated [38] residences of the outside people, so that it is not practicable for



them, from time to time, to come to the help of one another, on account of the distance of their residences: It is impossible for the Director General and the Councillors to provide each separate outside habitation with a safe-guard, Therefore, concerning the foregoing calamities, murders, damages, and destruction of different persons, farms, and Plantations, and also the last, the notorious damage and drawback upon this country and the good inhabitants themselves, it is hereby Decreed,—and since what has already happened, is to be apprehended and expected again—that as the good inhabitants, by their own experience and that of one another, may become wiser and more cautious, and conduct themselves agreeably to good order, as they are bound to do, by making close settlements, in suitable places, in the form and manner as by the Director General and the Councillors, or by their appointed Agents, shall be pointed out to the inhabitants, until their High Mightinesses, the Director General and the Councillors shall be endued with power from God and their High Mightinesses, better to support and to protect their subjects: That this may be better practised and executed for the time to come:

Therefore the Director General and the Councillors do, by these Presents, not only give warning to their good subjects, but they do also Ordain and Command them, to settle close to one another in the form of Villages, Neighbourhoods, and Hamlets, by the ensuing Spring, so that they may be the better protected, supported, and [39] defended against all assaults and encounters from the Savages, both by themselves and the trusty military force of the Director General and the Councillors; at the same time warning all persons, who contrary to these Presents, shall, from



this time forth, remain on their separated Plantations, that they will do it at their own risk, without the Director General and the Councillors coming to their relief; and, in addition thereto, they shall be mulcted, yearly, in the penalty of Twenty-five Guilders for the public benefit.

The Director General and the Councillors do furthermore order, for the purpose of preventing all sudden fires, that, from this time forth, no Houses shall be covered with Straw or Flags; nor any Chimneys be built of Clap-boards or Wood.\*

Thus done, resolved, resumed and approved, in the Fort Amsterdam, in New-Netherland, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of January 1656.

Signed by P. STUYVESANT and the Councillors,  
and underneath by

C. V. RUYVEN, Secretary.

[*Original, 31; Translation, 39-41.*]

**T**HE Director General and the Councillors of New-Netherland, to all persons who shall hear, see, or read these Presents, Greeting, Know Ye:

Whereas, every day, there have been complaints of various kinds referred to them, which are confirmed by experience, both now and formerly, that, under the notion and name of the Indians, Horned cattle, Hogs, and other animals, on the Plains, have been seized, slaughtered, and offered for sale by Christains, or at least by those who go under [40] the name of Christains; to prevent which, as far as it is practicable, they do, by these Presents, preemptorily interdict and forbid,

\* Vide Order of the Director General and Councillors, dated January 23, 1648.—H. B. D.





that, from this time forth, neither in this City nor in any other Towns, Villages, or Hamlets, nor in the Plains belonging to this Province, shall any Cattle, Calves, Hogs, Goats, or Sheep, be permitted to be slaughtered, not even by the owner himself, unless the owner, first, on the same day he intends to slaughter, shall have given in such creature as his own, whether it be Kine, Hog, Goat, or Sheep, to the magistrate of the respective place to which he belongs, or to such persons whom the magistrate shall have appointed in his respective place for that purpose, and from him have obtained a Slaughter-certificate: The owner shall be obligated, for the benefit of the Public, to pay to the magistrate, or to the existing Receiver appointed for that purpose, from One Stuyver to a Guilder, for every creature, his own, Kine, Hog, Goat, or Sheep, according to the established value of the same, in case of any dispute by the magistrate in his jurisdiction or by his substitute, which money, in each City, Town, or Hamlet, shall be preserved until a time of need, for the support and protection of the common cause and Town, to be used and expended, as follows; For Soldiers' or Corps' necessary ammunition, as the occasion shall demand. The fines for the violation of these Presents shall be appropriated and applied as follows; viz.:—One-third to the Prosecutor, One-third to the Officers, and One-third for the benefit of the common cause, as aforesaid.

Thus done, in the Fort of Amsterdam, in New-Netherland, the 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, 1656.

Was undersigned by P. STUYVESANT; under the Ordinance of Their High Mighti- [41]  
nesses the Director General and the Councillors of New-Netherland, and attested by

C. V. RUYVEN, Secretary.



*[The following Orders, properly belonging in this place, but not recorded in the Archives of the city, may be found in the "Appendix to Part "1." of this volume :*

LXXXV. Petition of the city authorities concerning the nomination of their successors in office, and the action thereon. January 18, 1656.

LXXXVI. Petition of the city authorities concerning inspection of Weights and Measures, and the action thereon. January 18, 1656.

LXXXVII. Appointment of a Firewarden. January 18, 1656.

LXXXVIII. Ordinance concerning the exportation of Peltries. Issued January 27, 1665.—H. B. D.]

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*[Original, 32, 33 ; Translation, 41-43.]*

WHEREAS, the Director General and the Councillors of New-Netherland have been credibly informed and advised, that not only here and within this Province there have been held Conventicles and Assemblies, but, also, that certain unqualified persons, in such Assemblies, have presumed to exercise the Profession and Preaching of God's Holy Word, without their having been thereunto called or appointed by Ecclesiastical or Temporal Authority : which is directly contrary to, and militating against, the Established Political and Ecclesiastical Order of our Fatherland, since, by this kind of Assemblies, many Mischiefs, Heresies, and Schisms are propagated. To prevent this, the Director General and the Councillors aforesaid, Do, by these Presents, absolutely and peremptorily forbid all such public or private Conventicles or Assemblies as are without the wonted (and only allowed by



God's word) reformed and appointed Assembly of the Reformed Religion, in conformity with the Synod of Dort, here, in this land, in our Fatherland, and in other Reformed Churches, observed and followed; under the penalty of One hundred Pounds, Flemish, to be incurred by all those persons who, in such public or private Assemblies, without the wonted and authorised Assembly, whether on the Sunday or on any other day, being unauthorized, shall presume to exercise the profession of Preaching, Prelection, or Singing; and [42] Twenty five Pounds, alike Flemish, to be incurred, over and above, by every male and female, married or single, who may be found in such Assembly; without the Director General and the Councillors' intending hereby any prejudice to any Patent heretofore given by them, or any lording over the conscience, or prohibiting the reading of God's holy word, or the domestic praying and worship of each one, in his family; but all public and private Conventicles and Assemblies, whether in public or private houses, without the storesaid wonted and established Reformed Divine worship: And, that this may be hereafter better observed and executed, and that no one may plead ignorance thereof, the Director General and the Councillors do hereby order their Fiscall, together with the subaltern magistrates and Schouts, to Proclaim these Presents, and to cause them to be Proclaimed, every-where, and against the transgressors of these Presents, to cause the penalties to be inflicted, the more so because, by such conduct, we promote the honor of God, advance the Reformed Religion, the tranquillity of our common Country, and also its Union and prosperity, as it behooves us.

Thus done, Resolved, and approved, in the



Fort of Amsterdam, in New Netherland, on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of February, Anno, 1656.

This Order of their High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors of New-Netherland was undersigned by P. STUYVESANT.

Attest

C. V. RUYVEN, Sec.

*[The following Orders, properly belonging in this place, but not recorded in the Archives of the city, may be found in the "Appendix to Part "I." of this volume :*

LXXXIX. Petition of city authorities for authority to raise money for public purposes, and the action thereon. February 1, 1656.

XC. Appointment of Burgomasters and Schepens for ensuing year. January 31 and February 2, 1656.

XCI. Order concerning a burial-place for Jews. Issued February 22, 1656.

XCII. Petition of the city authorities concerning Orphan Masters, and the action thereon. February 25, 1656.

XCIII. Minutes, and other papers, concerning the survey of the city. February 25, 1656.

XCIV. Petition of the city authorities concerning protection from the Indians, and the action thereon. March 3, 1656.

XCV. Ordinance imposing certain duties on furs exported. Issued April 4, 1656.

XCVI. Ordinance against smuggling, and imposing duties on furs and liquors. Issued April 27, 1656.

XCVII. Ordinance obliging all articles over





twenty-five pounds to be weighed at the Weigh-house. Issued April 27, 1656.

XCVIII. Ordinance regulating the Weigh-house. Issued April 27, 1656.

XCIX. Order concerning the payment of the excise. Issued April 29, 1656.

C. Ordinance concerning the currency in which certain duties were to be paid. Issued May 18, 1656.—H. B. D.]

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[Original, 34; Translation, 44.]

THE Director General and the Councillors of New Netherland, with the advice of the Burgomasters and their High Constables, by these Presents, do make known and they do give warning, that from this time forth, no persons shall be permitted, between this and the Fresh-water, to harbor at night, any Indian, under the penalty of Twenty-five Guilders for each offender, who, without permission from the Director General or the Secretary, signed, shall harbor any Indian in the night.

Thus done in Fort Amsterdam, in New Netherland, this 29<sup>th</sup> of May, Anno, 1656.

This Order of their High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors of New Netherland was signed by P. STUYVESANT.

C. V. RUYVEN, Secy.

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[The following Orders, properly belonging in this place, but not recorded in the Archives of the city, may be found in the "Appendix to Part I." of this volume:

CI. Ordinance concerning advances to soldiers. Issued June 3, 1656.



CII. Petition of city authorities concerning the Sheriff of the city, and the action thereon. June 7, 1656.

CIII. Ordinance amending the excise law. Issued June 7, 1656.

CIV. Appointment of Nicasius de Sille to be Sheriff of the city. June 26, 1656.

CV. Ordinance concerning the payment of tithes. Issued June 27, 1656.

CVI. Ordinance concerning the collection of duties on exports. Issued June 27, 1656.—H. B. D.]

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[*Original, 35 ; Translation, 44-46.*]

THE Director General and the Councillors of New-Netherland, by these Presents, do make known to all, that information has been given them by certain Indians, that two, three, or four Indians from Tappan's were harboring some evil design, and had given them to understand that they intended to murder some particular Christians, on the flats ; And, Whereas the Director General and the Councillors have not been able to ascertain towards what place or against whom their aim is, much less whether this should be the general design of the Nation, and particularly since it is of the Tappan Nation and other Indians the warning has been given, the Director General and the Coun[5]cillors can neither Ordain nor apply a remedy in any other way than, by these Presents, to revive their former Orders and Proclamations, to wit : That those persons who are living without, in separate habitations, shall withdraw into the nearest Village or Hamlet, and make a combination, in the penalty heretofore established in the premises : In the mean-



time, that they warn each other to be on their guard; and not to frequent the woods, or the road without being armed, and always in company of at least two, three, or four, so as to be able to resist these Bushmen: and, further, to prevent such separate murders and homicides, the Director General and the Councillors, with the advice of the Burgomasters of this City cannot now, as they could not formerly, devise any other or better expedient than what has already been repeated; and to interdict and to forbid that no Indian with a gun or any other weapon shall be admitted into any fortified place, nor into the flat lands, nor into any Village or Hamlet, nor into any house, under the penalty of forfeiting such weapon, which weapon, on the complaint of the inhabitants, may and shall be taken away by the Schouts, Marshals, or, in their absence, by any of the Magistrates, to wit, eleven days after the Proclamation and Affixture of these Presents, or after the Indians shall have received the knowledge of this Order and warning; And the Director General and the Councillors do, by these Presents, command their subjects to give the Indians the knowledge of these [46] Presents, in the Indians tongue, in their most civil and most acceptable manner, as it is the advice of the Director General and the Councillors, and of the Burgomasters aforesaid, with the intent and design of preventing all injury between the Christians and the Indians.

Thus done, in the Session of their High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors, in Fort Amsterdam, in New-Netherland, on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 1656.

Was signed by P. STUYVESANT, and attested by

C. V. RUYVEN, Secy.



*[The following Orders, properly belonging in this place, but not recorded in the Archives of the city, may be found in the "Appendix to Part "I." of this volume :*

CVII. Ordinance concerning the importation of articles contraband of war. Issued August 11, 1656.

CVIII. Ordinance concerning the anchorage ground before the city. Issued August 24, 1656.

CIX. Ordinance regulating the fees payable at the public store. Issued September 6, 1656.—  
H. B. D.]

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*[Original, 36 ; Translation, 46, 47.]*

THE Director General and the Councillors of New Netherland, to all persons who shall see these Presents, or hear them read, Greeting :

Whereas, now and then, the people from without are in the habit of bringing into this City different commodities, such as Veal, Pork, Butter, Cheese, Turnips, Roots, Straw, and other products of the land, for the purpose of selling them; and it frequently happens, particularly here at the Strand, that they are obliged to tarry long and to lodge, to their great damage, for the reason, because the community, or, at least, the greater part, especially those who live away from the Strand, are not aware that such commodities have been brought for sale, not alone to the discommoding of the Burghers but also to the notorious injury of the enterprising man from without, who frequently has to lose more in his time than the [47] profit on his commodities will warrant. Therefore, for the purpose of making provision in the premises, the Director General and the Councillors aforesaid, by these Presents,





do ordain that from this time forth, here in this City, SATURDAY shall be the MARKET-DAY; and that market shall be held at the Strand, at or around the house of Mr. HANS KIERSTEDÉ, where *after him*, every one who has any thing to buy or to sell, shall be permitted to enter.\*

Thus done, in the Session of their High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors, held in Fort Amsterdam, in New-Netherland, on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September, 1656:

Signed by the Director General and Councillors of New-Netherland.

Attest

C. V. RUYVEN, Secy.

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[The following Orders, properly belonging in this place, but not recorded in the Archives of the city, may be found in the "Appendix to Part "I." of this volume :

CX. Petition of city authorities for leave to impose certain taxes, and the action thereon. September 20, 1656.

CXI. Ordinance concerning the officers and soldiers of the Director-General's Company. Issued September 20, 1656.

CXII. Ordinance concerning the rate at which beavers shall be received in payment for duties. Issued September 27, 1656.--H. B. D.]

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\* Doctor, or rather, "Surgeon" HANS KIERSTEDÉ, had been an old servant of the West India Company, and was in New Amsterdam as early as 1638.

Several years after, he purchased the ground adjoining the Company's Stores, on the Strand of the East-river--now the East line of Pearl street, between Whitehall and Moore, where this first Market was established by law, as above provided.

Dr. Kierstede died in 1693 or 6.

This Market is fully described in Colonel De Voe's interesting *Market Book*, 33-44.--H. B. D.



[*Original*, 33-41 ; *Translation*, 43-55.]

The Director General and Councillors of New-Netherland, to all persons who shall hear or read these Presents, Greeting :

Be it known, that by daily and painful experience they have learned that the Orders and Proclamations repeatedly issued and repeatedly revived against the profanation of the Lord's day of rest,\* the unlawful Tapping, on that day,† in the night, after the placing of the watch on the ringing of the bell,‡ against the dangerous, yes, damnable, Sale or Dealing out of Wines, Beers, and Brandy-waters,§ against the Baking and selling of both the coarse and the small white Loaves of Bread,|| are not regarded, observed, maintained, nor yet executed, according to the benevolent intention of the Director General and the Councillors, and as necessity imperiously demands, to the dishonoring of God, to the manifest injury and disturbance of the peace and tranquillity of the inhabitants; and also to the great contempt of the authority of the higher and the subaltern Magistrates of this Province; Therefore, the Director General and the [49] Councillors aforesaid being desirous to make all necessary provisions for said offices and duties, do hereby Resolve, Revive, and Amplify their aforesaid issued Ordinances and Proclamations, interdicting and forbidding :

\* Vide Orders of the Director General and Councillors, May 31, 1647, March 10, and April 29, 1648.—H. B. D.

† Vide Orders of the Director General and Councillors, May 31, 1647, March 10, and April 29, 1648.—H. B. D.

‡ Vide Orders of the Director General and Councillors, May 31, 1647; March 10, 1648.—H. B. D.

§ Vide Orders of the Director General and Council, March 10, 1648, and November 8, 1649.—H. B. D.

|| Vide Orders of the Director General and Council, November 8, 1649, April 14, 1650, and June 8, 1651.—H. B. D.



IN THE FIRST PLACE, that on the Lord's day of rest, usually called Sunday, no person shall be allowed to do the ordinary and customary labors of his calling, such as Sowing, Mowing, Building, Sawing wood, Smithing, Bleaching, Hunting, Fishing, or any works allowable on other days, under the penalty of One Pound, Flemish, for each person, so offending; much less any idle or unallowed exercises and sports, such as Drinking to excess, frequenting Inns or Tap-houses, Dancing, Card-playing, Tick-tacking, Playing at ball, Playing at bowls, Playing at nine-pins, taking jaunts in Boats, Wagons, or Carriages, before, between, or during, Divine Service, under the penalty of a double fine (Two Pounds, Flemish); and particularly, no Innkeeper nor Tapster shall be allowed, before, nor between, nor during, Divine Service, to follow his customary business nor undertake to Tap, Hand out, Give out, or Sell, any Brandy-wines, Beers, or Ardent Spirits, directly or indirectly, under the penalty of Six Guilders, to be forfeited by every Innkeeper or Tapster, for each person; and every one of such persons as shall be found drinking at the aforesaid times, shall forfeit also Three Guilders. No Innkeepers nor Tapsters shall be allowed, on Sunday or any other [50] day, to follow his business, nor to continue Tapping, Selling, or Handing out any Wines, Beers, Brandy-wines, or Liquors, to any person, after the setting of the Watch or the ringing of the Bell, under the same penalties; domestic, barley-laws, and public matters, authorized by the consent and by the Order of the Magistrate alone excepted.

IN THE SECOND PLACE, respecting the very dangerous, injurious, and damnable Selling, Giving out, and Dealing out by Wines, Beers, or Ardent spirits to the Indians or natives of this land,



whereby almost all the calamities occur, at least are threatened and encouraged, whenever the Indians become intoxicated, the Director General and the Councillors do revive and amplify their former issued Proclamations;\* and by these Presents, they do Interdict and Command, that no person, whatever his rank and profession may be, shall be allowed to Sell, Exchange, or Deal out to any Indians any Wines, Brandy-wines, or Strong liquors, nor hand them, nor fetch them, nor cause them to be fetched, without, or within, or about the house, on the land or on the water, whether in Sloops, Barks, Boats, or Canoes, on Carriages, or Wagons, of whatever name, directly or indirectly, under the penalty of Five Hundred Guilders; and, in addition thereto, arbitrary corporal punishment and also banishment out of the country.

That these things (for the greater increase and maintenance of the public tranquillity and peace of the good inhabitants of this Province) may be better detected, all the High and Lower Officers, the voluntary or impressed [51] Servants of the Company, and the inhabitants of this Province, in behalf of their duty and obligations, are admonished, required, and commanded to assist in preventing, detecting, and prosecuting this dangerous and damnable Selling or Dealing-out any Wines, Beers, or Brandy waters; or, in case of their failing in these, to pay one half of the pecuniary fine, in case it shall be found, after this, that they have had the knowledge of such Selling or Dealing out of Wines, Beers, or Strong liquors to any Indians, without giving information of the same.

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\* Vide Orders of the Director General and Councillors, July 1, 1647, March 10, and May 10, 1648, and August 28, 1654.—H. E. D.





FURTHERMORE the Director General and the Councillors having been credibly informed and advised concerning the Huckstering and Retailing of Wines, Beers, and Spirituous liquors, at and around the River, out of the ascending and descending Sloops, Boats, Barks, Vessels, and Canoes, do not only interdict and forbid, by these Presents, all such Huckstering and Retailing, but they do Ordain, Enact, and Command that no Schippers, nor any persons propelling Bárques, Canoes, or Boats, nor any other free or slave inhabitant, of whatever name, rank, or vocation he may be, from this time forth, shall be permitted, whether for himself or any other person, in any Sloop, Boat, Canoe, or any other Vessel, to embark, lade, or take away Wines, Beers, or Ardent Spirits, in greater or smaller vessels, or even in Cans, Jugs, or Flask-cases, without having given in the same, as to the just quantity to the Officer of the place, where the Wines, Beers, and Spirituous liquors, in wholesale or retail, shall [52] be embarked, shipped, or laded, and shall have procured from the said Officer, a Bill or Certificate for Delivery, wherein shall be contained the *quantity* and the *quality* of the Casks and the other vessels, stating for whom the Wines, Beers, or the Spirituous liquors, have been shipped, and to whom they have been consigned; and bring back a suitable Bill or Certificate of Delivery to the particular persons, from the Officer of the place where the same shall have been delivered and from the Receiver himself, signed by them; and all this under the penalty of forfeiting the smuggled Wines, Beers, or Spirituous liquors, and the fine of Five hundred guilders for the First time; for the Second, the forfeiture of the Barque, Yacht, Boat, or Canoe, in addition to the above penalty.



IN THE THIRD PLACE, Concerning the Baking and the Selling of the Coarse and the White Bread, both neither at the proper weight nor yet at the established price : The Director General and the Councillors aforesaid, by these Presents, reviving and amplifying their former issued Orders on that, do Ordain and Command that all Bakers and all others, inhabitants, who make it their business to Bake or Sell Bread, whether to Christians or Barbarians, shall be obligated (for the accommodation of Christians as well as for the sake of profit, and to do the same for the Indians,) at least once or twice a week, to bake both Coarse and White loaves of Bread, both for Christians and Indians, at the established weight and price, as follows : [53]

*The Coarse Loaf shall weigh,*

One double Loaf, 8 lb., Price, in money, 14 Stuyvers each.

One single do., 4 lb., Price, in money, 7 Stuyvers each.

One half do., 2 lb., Price, in money, 3½ Stuyvers each.

*The White Loaf shall weigh,*

The double Loaf, 2 lb., Price in money, 8 Stuyvers each.

The single do., 1 lb., Price in money, 4 Stuyvers each.

The half do., ½ lb., Price in money, 2 Stuyvers, each.

The Bread that is lighter or without the knowledge, order, and consent of the Subaltern Court, lighter in weight or too dear in price, shall be forfeited ; and, in addition thereto, there shall be a penalty of Twenty-five Guilders for the First offence ; double that penalty for the Second



offence; and, for the Third offence, Six hundred Guilders, together with the absolute prohibition from following that business.

FURTHERMORE: No Bakers nor any one who follows the business of making Coarse or White Bread, shall be permitted to sell any Bread made of Sifted Bran, whether at wholesale or retail, to Christians or Indians; but the Bakers of Coarse Bread may make their Coarse Bread of the ground grain, as it comes from the Mill; nor shall they make any other sort of Bread, whether for Christians or Indians, than as before specified, under the penalty as aforesaid; the choice thereof resting in the Judicature of the respective Courts, each in its own jurisdiction, and in such persons, who on account of their better knowledge of Bread, shall be pleased to undertake it.—

[54] IN THE FOURTH PLACE: The Director General and the Councillors having been further informed, and having well considered, that as in the subjects of Tapping, so also in Baking, there are practised many frauds; and, consequently, there are attempts to cover the same under the pretence of Custom, because, up to this time, there has not been any Company or certain number of them acknowledged: Therefore, for the purpose of preventing these, as far as it is practicable, the Director General and Councillors do Ordain and Command that, from this time forth, no person shall follow the business of Baking or Tapping without first having made application to those of the Magistrates in the respective jurisdictions, and having procured from the same, or their authorized Agents, a License for that business, which License shall be renewed by the Inukeepers and the Bakers, quarterly, commencing from the first day of November next ensuing, and every time paying therefor to the behoof of



the respective Courts, One Pound, Flemish, under the penalty of suspension from the business, by notorious and wilful neglect—

The foregoing specified Fines and Penalties shall be appropriated, One third to the Officer who shall bring the prosecution; One third for the Church or the Poor; and the remaining One third for the benefit of the Public; and, that the same may be the better known, practised, and executed, and that no person, for the time to come, may pretend ignorance, the Director General and [55] the Councillors do, by these Presents, Ordain and Command, that in the usual places of publication, these Presents shall be Published and Affixed; and that, after the publication thereof, they shall be observed and executed, without any favor, grace, or reserve, or respect of person, since we have deemed this necessary to the good of the Country in general, and particularly to the welfare of the Inhabitants.

Thus done, revived, and amplified, in the Session of the Director General and the Councillors of New Netherland, at Fort Amsterdam, on the 26<sup>th</sup> of October, 1656.

Signed by P. STUYVESANT,

Attest:

C. V. RUYVEN, Secretary.

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[Original, 51, 52; Translation, 72-74.]

THE Director General and the Councillors of New Netherland To all persons who shall see or hear these presents read, Greeting:

They give notice, that for the purpose of preventing all calamities by fire, they have long since condemned all *Flag* roofs, *Wooden* and *Flat*—





ted chimneys, within this City;\* and, also, to that end, have appointed Firewardens† and Inspectors of Buildings,‡ which Statutes and Ordinances the Director General and the Councillors aforesaid have repeatedly published and renewed; yet, unto the present time they have been by many of the Inhabitants carelessly or obstinately neglected, either because the penalty and fine therein established is too trifling or because the penalties have not been inflicted and collected; which neglects have all along occasioned several calamities and accidents by fire, and more such are to be apprehended, yea, even the entire destruction of this City, in regard to the buildings which are now daily going up, so that it is necessary to make provisions in the case, To which end, the Director General and the Councillors aforesaid have not only judged it to be right and necessary to revive their former enactments and Proclamations, but, also, to simplify and amend them, wherein they were deficient, or to cause them to be promptly executed. To that end, the Director General and the Councillors aforesaid [73] do Ordain that all *flag roofs, wooden chimneys, hay-barracks, and hay-stacks* shall be taken down and removed, within the term of Four months after the publication of these Presents, under the penalty of Twenty-five Guilders for each and every month,—and the penalty shall be promptly executed,—for every house, small or great, hay-barrack, or hay-stack, or wooden chimney, within the walls of this City, after the expiration

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\* Vide. Orders dated January 23, 1648; and January 13, 1655.—H. B. D.

† Vide, Orders dated January 23, and September 28, 1643; April 13, 1655 (App. LXIX.) and January 18, 1655 (App. LXXXVII.)—H. B. D.

‡ Vide, Orders dated July 25, 1647; and December 15, 1648.—H. B. D.



of the Four months aforesaid, to the inclusion of hen-houses and hog-pens: the fines to be appropriated, One-third to the officer who shall enforce the law and Two-thirds to the behoof of the City; and if, in the mean time, in any such chimneys or houses, any fire shall take place, a four-fold fire penalty shall be paid for it, to wit: One hundred Guilders, to be appropriated according to the Proclamations heretofore issued.

Whereas, furthermore, in all well-regulated Cities and Corporations it is customary that *Fire-buckets, Ladders, and Hooks* are in readiness at the corners of the streets and in public houses, for the time of need, and these things are here more necessary than ever before, through the paucity of stone houses and the abundance of wooden-buildings within this City, erected by one and the other, the Director General and the Councillors do Ordain and Authorize, in these premises, the Burgomasters of this City, either personally or by their Treasurer, to promptly demand for every house, whether small or large, ONE BEAVER, or Eight Guilders, in Seawant, [74] according to the established price, for the purpose of ordering, from the revenue of the same, by the first opportunity, from Faterland, Two hundred and fifty leathern Fire-buckets; and out of the surplus to have made some Fire-ladders and Fire-hooks: and, in addition to this, once a year, to demand for every *Chimney*, One Guilder, for the support and maintenance of the same.\*

Thus done in the Session of the Director General and the Councillors, held in Port Amsterdamb, in New Netherland, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, Anno, 1657.

C. V. RUYVEN,  
*Secretary.*

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\* Vide, Order dated January 23, 1648.—H. B. D.



[*Original, 52; Translation, 74, 75.*]

WHEREAS, the Director General and the Councillors of New Netherland, to their sorrow, do daily observe that their former issued Orders, enacted against quarreling, fighting, striking and smiting, are not practised, observed, and executed, according to their good intent and meaning, as it is becoming; but, by some frolicsome persons, for the utterance of one word, it is contemned and trodden under foot, on account of the trifling fine in the aforesaid premises, as it is sufficiently evident; and, Whereas, some persons do not hesitate to twit the Officers that it is not more than One Pound, Flemish, in Seawant;

Therefore, being desirous of preventing further accidents resulting from such fighting, The Director General and the Councillors do, by these Presents, [75] peremptorily interdict and forbid any Street riots and quarrels, much more the beating and striking of one another, which can occasion nothing else than bitterness, calamities, yea, homicide, under the penalty of the transgressors' paying, for One single blow with the fist, Twenty-five Guilders; and in case blood shall be drawn, Four times as much; and in case such shall happen in the presence of the Officer, Burgomasters, or Schepens, a double fine, to be applied as the Law directs.\*

Let every one be warned hereof, and take heed of damage.

Thus done at Fort Amsterdam, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of December, Anno, 1657.

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\* Vide, Order dated May 31, 1647, and the numerous Orders regulating Taverns.--H. B. L.



[*Original, 53-55; Translation, 75-79.*]

**T**he Director General and the Councillors of New Netherland, by daily experience, have seen and observed that the foregoing Orders and Proclamations have not been regarded according to the good intent of the same; but that, notwithstanding the repeated renovations thereof, many large and spacious lots, even in the best situated parts of this City, remain unimproved, and by the possessors and owners are held in reserve, either for greater profit or for their pleasure, and thereby this City is checked in its population, extension of business, and consumption, and, also, in the style of building, whereto new-comers might be encouraged in case such persons [76] could procure a lot, in an eligible place, for a reasonable price:

In conformity with the Proclamations, heretofore issued,\* the neglectors, if not countenancers, in holding in reserve so many large and spacious lots, either for their profit or pleasure, because, by the before-issued Proclamations, no penalty, fine, or forfeiture was incurred by such neglect or omission; and, since the possessors and owners have held the lots for years, without any burdens, reserving them for greater profit or using them at their pleasure for orchards and gardens, whereby the building and population are retarded, and, consequently, the increase of the Commerce, Consumption, and Prosperity of this City, contrary to the benevolent intention and meaning of their High Mightinesses, the Directors of the Privileged Company, Lords and Patroons of this Province, as the first donors and grantors of these lots for this purpose; that

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\* Vide, Orders dated July 25, 1647, and December 15, 1648.—H. B. D.





for the scattering the population, increasing the number of inhabitants, the Commerce, the Consumption, and the Prosperity of the City, these lots should be built upon, as expressed in the granted *Ground-briefs*, together with the consequent stipulation and submission of such costs as shall be established by well-qualified persons, or by those daily authorized; For the observance and execution of the same, the Director General and the Councillors aforesaid, having long before this, through their sworn Surveyor, with the assistance of this City, at the arrangement of the streets, surveyed the vacant and unimproved lots, and found some hundred lots within the walls of this City, vacant and unimproved; that these lots, according to the good intent and meaning of their High Mightinesses the Directors aforesaid, and in conformity with the former-issued Proclamations, may be the sooner built upon, it being certainly disorderly to possess such large and spacious lots, either for profit or pleasure, without being subject to any burden: and that those disposed to build may be accommodated with lots at a reasonable price, the Director General and the Councillors, in amplification of the before-issued Proclamations, by these Presents, do Ordain that all vacant and unimproved lots, as they have long since been surveyed and laid out by the Surveyor of the Director General and the Councillors, after the Publication and Affixing of these Presents, shall be taxed and appraised, first of all by the Possessor and Owner, himself, that he may not hereafter complain of the undervaluation; and that as long as the owners shall retain the lot or lots, or shall let them lie without having suitable and tenantable houses built thereon, he shall, yearly, in two installments, pay the fifteenth penny, One-half on May-day and



the other half on the Fair-day of this City, the revenue to be applied to the Fortification of this City and its repairs; and the Burgomasters are hereby authorized and command[78]ed, after the publication of these Presents, to summon the owners of these lots, without any respect of persons, to appear before them at the Council-house of this City, to attend to the taxation, and by their Secretary to make a record thereof, as the Law directs, and to place the revenue in the care of their Treasurer; and, in case of opposition or refusal, in a Christian manner to amend such. Such lots to be appraised according to their value and the situation of the place, Provided however, that it be left to the option of the Possessor and Owner, whether the lots appraised by the Burgomasters shall appertain to themselves, by their paying the aforesaid Fifteenth Penning, or, otherwise, to give them over, at that price, to the Burgomasters, for the behoof of the City: in the same manner, also, on the other hand, it is left to the option of the Burgomasters aforesaid, to take the lots at the appraisal of the owners, on account of the City, and to offer them for sale at that price, to other admirers who are disposed and prepared to build, in case the owner, himself, will not or is not able to build in conformity with the foregoing Proclamation, or to leave them in the possession of the owner, until they shall have been built upon by him or by others, when the imposed [79] tax, laid for weighty reasons on unimproved lots, shall cease.

And the better to promote immigration, and the prosperity and the strength of this city, the Director General and the Councillors do *Ordain* and *Command*, that, from this time forward, by and within the walls of this city or its gates, within the jurisdiction of the same, no Dwelling-



houses shall be permitted to be built, before all the lots herein aforesaid shall have been suitably built upon.

Thus done in the Session of the Director General and the Councillors, at the Fort Amsterdam, this 15 day of January, Anno, 1658.

P. STUYVESANT,

C. V. RUYVEN, Secy

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[*Original, 56; Translation, 79, 80.*]

WHEREAS, the Director General and the Councillors of New Netherland have not only been informed, but have, themselves, seen and remarked, that some persons, after the Publication and Proclamation of their Banns of Matrimony for the third time, do not further the consummation of their marriage, as is becoming, but are putting off the same, from time to time, not only for weeks but for months, which is directly in contravention of and contrary to the excellent order and custom of our Fatherland: Therefore, being desirous of making provision in the premises and for the purpose of preventing, for the time to come, all the injury and irregularity flowing therefrom, the Director General and the Councillors aforesaid do hereby Ordain, that all persons whose Banns have been published, after the third Proclamation shall have been made and no lawful impediment occurring, shall cause their Marriage to be solemnized at the longest within One month after the last Proclamation, or, within the said term, to appear and render in his reasons for his refusal, as it behooves him; and this under the penalty of Ten Guilders for the first week after the expiration of the aforesaid month, and for the succeed-



ing weeks, Twenty Guilders for each week, until the time he shall have made known the reason of his refusal.

FURTHERMORE, no male and female shall be permitted to cohabit, before they shall have been lawfully married, in the penalty of One hundred Guilders, or as much less or more as their circumstances shall be found to warrant.

Such persons may be amerced anew every month by the Officer, according to the order and customs of our Fatherland.

Thas done, in the Session of their High Mightinesses the Director General and the Councillors, held at Fort Amsterdam, in New Netherland, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of January, Anno, 1658.

P. STUYVESANT

C. VAN RUYVEN, Secy.

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[Original, 60-62; Translation, 85-90.]

**T**HE Director General and the Councillors of New Netherland To all persons who shall see or hear these presents read, Greeting :

BE IT KNOWN, that they (notwithstanding the reduction of the value of the Seawant at the General Compting-house, from Six to Eight White, and from Three to Four Black Seawants for one Stuyver] through the Remonstrance of the Burgomasters and Schepens of this City, as well by the information of others, have come to the knowledge of the great, excessive, and intolerable high price of necessary commodities and family articles, through the abundance of the Seawant in trafficking for Beavers, which have been driven up to Sixteen Guilders and upwards for one Beaver, according to which price all family commodities and the common daily





necessaries take the same course, so much so that the Shopkeepers, Mechanics, Brewers, Bakers, Tapsters, and common Grocers make a difference of Eighty, [86] Ninety, nay, even One hundred per cent, whether they sell their labor or their goods for Beaver or for Seawant, the Director General and the Councillors aforesaid have been induced and persuaded, by the particular request of the Burgomasters and Schepens of this City, to permit the Seawant to pass agreeably to the foregoing reduction of the Compting-house, to wit; in place of Six, Eight White, and instead of Three, Four Black Seawants, for one Stuyver; YET, WHEREAS, from past experience, not the imaginary but the probable result will be, that, through this *reduction*, the complaints concerning the high prices or the disproportion betwixt the payments in Beaver and Seawant will not be remedied; but, on the contrary, we have a right to presume that the Trader, for the greater number of Seawants for the Stuyver he receives, the greater length of the *hand* or of the *fathom* he will have to give for the Beaver, and, consequently and necessarily, the high prices must continue for such necessaries as Beer and Bread, and will be justified under the cloak of the great disproportion betwixt the Seawant and the Beaver: The which, for the time to come, to remedy and prevent, as far as it is practicable, The Director General and the Councillors cannot [87] devise any better expedient or means than what they have repeatedly declared, to wit: an absolute traffic upon the principle, to sell and buy according to value and quality of the article, to barter and exchange by the measure or the Guilder, as the parties, the Buyer and Seller, can agree; and that the payment in Seawant, above Twenty Guilders, by right shall not be valid unless by



written contract or by the agreement of the parties it appears to be quite otherwise. Yet, as much as the Seawant, though the deficiency of ready money and for the daily necessities of the family, must serve between the Buyer and the Seller, the Director General and the Councillors have come to the conclusion not to reduce the Seawant, but the necessities, such as Bread, Beer, and Wine; and to fix them according to the worth of the Beavers, as the common market price is among their associates.\*

Wherein the Director General and the Councillors Order and Command the Bakers, Brewers, Tapsters, and other retail-dealers, not to sell the Bread, Beer, and Wine at a higher price than the price established by the Director General and the Councillors, and, also, by the respective subordinate rulers, each in his own jurisdiction, with the Consent of the Director General and the [88] Councillors: WHEREIN, to prevent the too great clamor and noise about the high prices, and to establish some order concerning the necessary family articles,—Bread, Beer, and Wine— which should be regulated and reduced according to other things, the Director General and the Councillors, with the communication and advice of the Burgomasters of this City, have determined, resolved, and ordained, and, by these Presents, they do Ordain, that the Brewers, Tapsters, Bakers, and other Shopkeepers and Common

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\* The Currency was a subject which seems to have thrust itself into the Council Chamber at New Amsterdam quite as often and with quite as cool a welcome as in more modern times; it has come before the Congress of the United States; and we are not inclined to yield to the latter body any more credit in its management of the subject than I am disposed to yield to the Dutch, two hundred years ago.

The reader, by turning to Orders dated November 30, 1647; May 30, and September 14, 1650, will find other Legislation on the subject.—H. B. D.



Grocers, shall sell daily, necessary, family commodities to the Buyer at Three different prices, to wit: Silver money, Beavers, or Seawants, as by the present provisions, throughout the Provinces, it has been reduced; to wit: Eight White or Four Black, for one Stuyver; in conformity with which standard the Brewers shall deliver One Barrel of good Beer for Ten Guilders, in Silver money, according to the Holland value of Fifteen Guilders in Beavers, the Beaver at Eight Guilders to Twenty-two Guilders in Seawants—Eight White or Four Black for One Stuyver: the Small Beer, Three Guilders in Silver, Four and a half Guilders in Beaver, and Six Guilders in Seawant.\*

#### [89] THE TAPSTERS.

*By the Van.*† Six Stuyvers in Silver money; Nine Stuyvers in Beavers; and Twelve Stuyvers in Seawant.

*By the Can, for French wine.* Eighteen Stuyvers in Silver money; Twenty-four Stuyvers in Beavers; Thirty-six Stuyvers in Seawant.

*By the Can, for Spanish Wine.* Twenty-four Stuyvers, in Silver money; Thirty-six Stuyvers in Beavers; Fifty Stuyvers in Seawant.

*By the Gill, for Brandy-wine.* Five Stuyvers in Silver money; Seven Stuyvers in Beavers; and Ten Stuyvers in Seawant.‡

#### THE BAKERS.

*The Coarse Wheat Loaf of Eight pounds weight.* Seven Stuyvers in Silver money; Ten Stuyvers in Beavers; and Fourteen Stuyvers in Seawant.

\* Vide, Orders dated November 19, 1653 (App. XXVII.), November 29, 1655 (App. LXXXII.), etc.—H. B. D.

† About two quarts.—TRANSLATOR.

‡ Vide, Orders dated June 5, 1651 (App. XIII.), November 19, 1653 (App. XXVIII.), November 29, 1655 (App. LXXXII.), etc.—H. B. D.



*The Rye Loaf of Eight pounds weight.* Six Stuyvers in Silver money; Nine Stuyvers in Beavers; and Twelve Stuyvers in Seawant.

*The White Loaf of Two pounds weight.* Four Stuyvers in Silver money; Six Stuyvers in Beavers; and Eight Stuyvers in Seawant.\*

[90] Thus done, resumed, and approved, in the Session of the Director General and the Councillors of New Netherland, held at Fort Amsterdam, in New Netherland, this 11th day of November, 1658.

Signed by P. STUYVESANT and the Councillors.  
C. V. RUYVEN, Secy.

[*Original, 64; Translation, 91, 92.*]

THE Director General and Councillors of New-Netherland &c.

WHEREAS, daily, there are great complaints and clamours, that the Pests, Rails, Pales, and other Fencings around Grain-land and Gardens, made with great expense, trouble, and labor of the Inhabitants, for the preservation of their sowing and planting, are stolen by night and by day, in which, if there be no seasonable provision made, it is to be feared that what has been sown and planted and what may yet be sown and planted will be wholly trodden down and destroyed by the Cattle, through the deficiency of fencing, and for the next year there will be no grain reaped from the acre; to prevent which, [92] the Director General and the Councillors aforesaid, with the advice of the Burgomasters and Schepens of this City, desirous of making provision herein, as far as is practicable, Do by these

\* Vide. Orders dated June 5, 1651 (*App. XIII.*), November 19, 1653 (*App. XXVII.*), etc.--H. B. 9.





Presents, peremptorily warn all and every one, of whatever state and condition he may be, and peremptorily command that, from this time forth, no person shall strip any Gardens, Sowings, or Plantations, of Posts, Rails, Pales, or other Fencing, under the penalty, on the conviction of any person of having wholly or partially stripped away any fencing; for the First offence, of being Whipped and Branded, and for the Second offence, of being punished with the Cord until death ensues, without any reserve or respect of persons. And if, after this date, any person who knows of any robbing of fields or gardens of Posts, Rails, Clap-boards, and such like, will give information thereof, he shall receive honor, and his name will be concealed.\*

Let every one take warning.

Thus done at Fort Amsterdam, in New Netherland, this 9th day of October, 1655. Revived the 30th day of December, 1658. At the Stadt-house of the city of Amsterdam in N. Netherland this 7th day of January, Anno, 1659.

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